DEMOCRATIC IRON AND STEEL REVISION BILL

Makes Reductions From Existing Rates of From 30 to 50 Per Cent.

AN EXTENSIVE FREE LIST

Bill Will Be Approved by the Democratic Caucus To-day and Is Expected to Pass by Feb. 3.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—The opening gun in the Democratic tariff revision programme was fired to-day when Chairman Underwood of the Ways and Means Committee made public the bill revising the iron and steel schedules of the Payne-Aldrich tariff law. The bill will be approved by the Democratic caucus, which is scheduled to meet to-morrow afternoon, will be introduced in the House on Wednesday and taken up on Friday. Mr. Underwood thinks the bill can be passed by the following Saturday, February 3.

The metal schedule makes reductions of from 30 to 50 per cent. on practically all items of the iron and steel tariff. In addition it places on the free list iron ore, hoop or band iron or steel, barbed and other wire fencing, nails, spikes, horseshoes, tungsten bearing ores, zinc bearing ores, cash registers, typesetting machines, linotypes, printing presses, sewing machines, reapers and tar and oil spreading machines used in road main enance.

The bill contains a summary prepared by Majority Leader Underwood which gives the estimated imports for a twelve month period under its operation at $75,[illegible] and the duties collectible at $17,477,14[illegible], which will be equivalent to an ad valorem duty of 22.42 per cent. The imports in 1911 were $53,036,199, the duties collected $18,330,737 and the equivalent ad valorem 34.51 per cent. In 1910 the imports were $60,170,377, the duties collected $21,494,013 and the equivalent ad valorem 35.72 per cent. In 1905 the imports were $34,038,600, the duties $14,[illegible] and the equivalent ad valorem 4[illegible] per cent.

Briefly this means that the Democratic bill if enacted into law would reduce the average tariff on steel imports from [illegible] per cent to 22.42 per cent ad valorem. It would also reduce the revenue from iron and steel importations by about [illegible] below that of 1910 and nearly [illegible] under that of 1911, while at the same time increasing steel imports by an [illegible] $[illegible].

The following rates of duty are imposed on various classes of iron and steel:

Alloys, ferromanganese, spiegeleisen, [illegible] and scrap iron and scrap steel, 15 per centum ad valorem; ferrosilicon, silicon, chromium metal, ferrochromium, ferromolybdenum, ferrotungsten, ferrophosphorus, ferrotitanium, ferromanganese, ferrovanadium, [illegible], titanium, tantalum, tungsten metal, and ferrosilicon, 15 per centum ad valorem.

Blooms, billets, loops or other [illegible] finished than iron in bars, [illegible] advanced than pig iron, except [illegible] muck bars, bar iron, square iron or hammered round iron, in coils or as bars or shapes of rolled or hammered iron not specially provided for, 15 per centum ad valorem.

Beams, girders, joists, angles, channels, [illegible] channels, columns and posts or parts or sections of columns and posts, and built beams and building forms together with all other structural shapes of iron or steel, whether plain, punched or prepared for use, or whether assembled or unassembled, 15 per cent ad valorem.

Boiler or other plate iron or steel, 20 per cent ad valorem. Sheets of iron or steel, including crucible plate steel or saw plates, and kelp iron or steel, 15 per cent ad valorem.

Iron or steel anchors or parts thereof, forgings of iron or steel, or of combined iron and steel, but not machined, tooled, or otherwise advanced in condition, 15 per centum ad valorem; anti-friction balls, ball bearings and roller bearings, of iron or steel or other metal, finished or unfinished, 25 per centum ad valorem.

Railway bars made of iron or steel and railway bars made in part of steel, T rails and punched iron or steel flat rails, railway fishplates or splice bars made of iron or steel, 10 per centum ad valorem.

All iron or steel sheets, plates or strips and all hoop, band or scroll iron or steel when galvanized or coated with zinc, spelter or other metals, or any alloy of those metals; sheets or plates composed of iron, steel, copper, nickel or other metal with layers of other metal or metals imposed thereon by forging, hammering, rolling or welding; sheets of iron or steel, polished, planished or glanced, by whatever name designated, including such as have been pickled or cleaned by acid, or by any other material or process, or which are cold rolled, smoothed only, not polished, and such as are cold hammered, blued, brightened, tempered or polished by any process to such perfected surface finish or polish better than the grade of cold rolled, smoothed only; and sheets or plates of iron or steel, or taggers iron or steel, coated with tin or lead, or with a mixture of which these metals or either of them, is a component part, by the dipping or any other process and commercially known as tin plates, tern plates and taggers iron 20 per cent ad valorem.

Steel ingots, cogged ingots, blooms and slabs, by whatever process made; die blocks or blanks, billets and bars and tapered or beveled bars; mills shafting, pressed, sheared or stamped shapes, not advanced in value or condition; gun barrel moulds not in bars; alloys used as substitutes for steel in the manufacture of tools; all descriptions and shapes of dry sand, loam or iron moulded steel castings; sheets and plates and steel not specially provided for, 10 per cent ad valorem.

Cut shot or sand made of iron or steel that can be used as abrasives, 20 per cent ad valorem.

Rivet, screw, fence and other iron or steel wire rods and nail rods, 10 per cent ad valorem.

All round iron or steel rods smaller than No. 6 wire gauge shall be classed and dutiable as wire. No article made from or composed of wire shall pay a less rate of duty than 20 per cent ad valorem.

Barbed and all other fence wire and wire fencing shall be exempt from duty; telegraph, telephone and other wires and cables composed of metal and rubber, or of metal, rubber and other materials, 20 per centum ad valorem; wire heddles or heddle 25 per cent.

Round iron or steel wire, all wire composed of iron, steel or other metal except gold or silver, covered with cotton, silk or other material, corset clasps, corset steels, dress steels and all flat wires and steels in strips not thicker than No. 15 wire gauge and not exceeding five inches in width, 20 per cent, and all other wire not specially provided for. Iron and steel wire rods.

Axles of iron or steel, or of iron and steel combined, by watever process made or in whatever stage of manufacture, 15 per cent.

Automobiles, bicycles and motorcycles and finished parts of any of the foregoing, but excluding tires, 40 per cent.

Axles, axle bars, axle blanks or forging for axles, whether of iron or steel, 10 per cent.

Blacksmith hammers, tongs or sledges, track tools, wedges or crowbars, whether of iron or steel, 10 per cent.

Wearing clothing not actually and permanently fitted to and attached to carding machines or to parts thereof at the time of importation, when manufactured with round iron or round steel wire, tempered or untempered, 30 per cent.

Cast iron pipe of every description, cast iron and irons, plates, sieve plates, sadirons, tailors' irons, hatters' irons, and castings and vessels wholly of cast iron, including all castings of iron or cast iron plates which have been chiselled, drilled, machined or otherwise advanced in condition, 10 per cent.

Lap welded, butt welded, seamed or jointed iron or steel tubes, pipes, flues or stays, cylindrical or tubular tanks or vessels for holding gas, liquids or other material, flexible metal tubing or hose, welded cylindrical furnaces, tubes or flues made from plate metal and all other iron or steel tubes, finished, 20 per cent.

Penknives, pocketknives, clasp knives, pruning knives, budding knives, erasers manicure knives, and all knives by whatever name known, which have folding or other than fixed blades or attachments, and razors, all the foregoing, 35 per cent. Scissors and shears, and blades for the same, finished or unfinished, 30 per cent.

Sword blades or swords and side arms, 30 per cent.

Table, butchers', carving, cooks', hunting, kitchen, bread, butter, vegetable, fruit, cheese, carpenters', bench, curriers', drawing, farriers', fleshing, hay, tanners', plumbers', painters', palette, artists' and shoe knives, forks and steels finished or unfinished, with or without handles, 25 per cent.

Files, rasps or floats, 25 per cent.

Muskets, muzzle loading shotguns and rifles, and parts thereof, 15 per cent. Breech loading shotguns or rifles, pistols of all kinds, 35 per cent.

Table, kitchen and hospital utensils, or other similar hollowware, of iron or steel, enamelled or glassed with vitreous glasses, but not ornamented or decorated with lithographic or other printing, 25 per cent ad valorem.

Needles for knitting or sewing machines, latch needles, crochet needles, or tape needles, &c., 25 per cent.

Fishhooks, 10 per cent.

Fishing rods and reels and all other fishing tackle, 30 per cent.

Steel plates engraved, stereotype plates, electrotype plates and plates of other materials, engraved for printing, plates of iron or steel engraved or fashioned for use in the production of designs, patterns or impressions on glass in the process of manufacturing plate or other glass, 15 per cent.

Lithographic plates of stone or other material engraved, drawn or prepared, and wet transfer paper or paper prepared wholly with glycerine or glycerine combined with other materials, containing the imprints taken from lithographic plates, 25 per cent.

Rivets, studs and steel points, lathed, machined or brightened, and rivets or studs for non-skidding automobile tires and rivets of iron or steel not specially provided for, 20 per cent.

Crosscut saws, mill saws, pit and drag saws, circular saws, steel band saws, finished or further advanced than tempered and polished, hand, buck and other saws, not specially provided for, 12 per cent.

Screws, commonly called wood screws, made of iron or steel, 35 per cent ad valorem.

Umbrella and parasol ribs and tubes, 30 per cent.

Wheels for railway purposes, or parts thereof, made of iron or steel, and railway tires or parts thereof, 25 per centum; ingots, cogged ingots, blooms, or blanks for the same, without regard to the degree of manufacture, 10 per centum.

Aluminum, aluminum scrap, and alloys of any kind in which aluminum is the component material of chief value, in crude form, aluminum in plates, sheets, bars, and rods, barium, calcium, magnesium, sodium and potassium and their alloys, 25 per cent.

Antimony, as regulus or metal, antimony ore, stibnite and matter containing antimony, 10 per cent; oxide of antimony, 25 per cent.

Argentine, albata, or German silver, unmanufactured, 15 per cent.

Bauxite, or beryxite, crude, not refined or otherwise advanced in condition from its natural state, 10 per cent.

Bronze, powder, brocades, metallics, &c., 25 per cent.

Braziers' copper, sheets, rods, pipes and copper bottoms, sheathing or yellow metal of which copper is the component material of chief value, 5 per cent.

Gold leaf, 35 per cent.

Silver leaf, 30 per cent.

Tinsel wire, lame or lahn, 10 per cent; buttons and metal threads, 30 per cent; fabrics, laces, &c., made wholly or in chief value of tinsel wire, &c., 40 per cent.

Hooks and eyes, 15 per cent.

Lead bearing ore of all kinds, and lead gross, 25 per cent ad valorem upon the lead contained therein.

Lead bullion or base bullion, lead in pigs and bars, old refuse lead, scrap lead, lead in sheets, pipe, shot, glaziers' lead and lead wire, 25 per cent.

Metallic mineral substances in a crude state, 10 per cent; monazite sand and thorite; thorium, oxide of and salts of; gas mantles treated with chemicals or metallic oxides, and gas mantle scrap consisting in chief value of metallic oxides, 25 per cent.

Nickel, nickel oxide and alloys in pigs, ingots, bars, rods or plates, 10 per cent; sheets or strips, 20 per cent.

Pens, metallic, 25 per cent.

Penholder tips, gold pens, fountain pens, &c., 25 per cent.

Pins with solid heads, without ornamentation, including hair, safety, hat, bonnet and shawl pins, composed wholly of brass, copper, iron, steel or other base metal, not plated, 20 per cent.

Quicksilver, 10 per cent.

Type metal and new types, 15 per cent.

Watch movements, including time-detectors, whether imported in cases or not, watch cases and parts of watches, chronometers, box or ship, and parts thereof, lever clock movements having jewels in the escapement, and clocks containing such movements, 30 per cent; all jewels for use in the manufacture of watches or clocks, 10 per cent; enamel dials for watches or other instruments, 35 per cent.

Zinc in blocks or pigs and zinc dust; in sheets, and old and worn out zinc fit only to be remanufactured, 15 per cent.

Cans, boxes, packages and other containers of all kinds (except such as are hermetically sealed by soldering or otherwise) composed wholly or in chief of metal lacquered or printed by any process of lithography whatever, 30 per cent.

Bottle caps of metal, whether plain or colored, waxed, lacquered, enamelled, lithographed or embossed in color, 30 per cent.

All steam engines, 15 per cent. Embroidering machines, and lacemaking machines, 25 per cent.

Nippers and pliers, 30 per cent.

Articles or wares not specifically provided for, composed wholly or in part of iron, steel, lead, copper or other metal, 25 per cent.

CAN'T KEEP OUT LIQUOR.

Supreme Court Holds a Kentucky Prohibition Law Invalid.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—In an opinion by Justice Lurton the Supreme Court to-day held that a Kentucky State law is invalid which prohibited railroads from carrying in interstate commerce beer or other intoxicating liquors consigned to "dry points" in Kentucky. So far as the Kentucky law applies to shipments entirely within the State it is valid.

The case arose in the Federal Circuit Court for the District of Indiana by the refusal of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad to carry beer offered for shipment by the F. W. Cook Brewing Company of Evansville, Ind., to dry places in Kentucky. The railroad excused its refusal by pleading the Kentucky State law.

Freight Rates on Hops Suspended.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—The Interstate Commerce Commission to-day suspended a proposed increase in the freight rates on hops in bales from North Pacific coast terminals and intermediate points to nearly all points in the United States. The rates were to have become effective Wednesday, and the commission suspends them pending investigation until May 23 next.

STEEL RECORDS ARE DEMANDED OF FARRELL

President of Corporation Says He Knows Nothing of Data of Subsidiaries.

THREAT OVER COST SHEETS

Witness Tells Stanley Committee That He Doesn't Agree With Gary and Carnegie.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—A threat that the special committee of the House would force the United States Steel Corporation, if necessary, to yield certain records bearing on the cost of producing iron and steel products was the feature of Chairman Stanley's examination of James J. Farrell, president of the corporation, who appeared as a witness before the steel committee to-day.

Mr. Stanley's threat came at the conclusion of a long wrangle over the cost sheets of the Steel Corporation, President Farrell repeatedly insisting that he had no objection to the submission of such records for the perusal of the committee, but that he did object to the general publication of what he characterized as "trade secrets."

"We will get these records," declared Chairman Stanley to Mr. Farrell, "if there is any power left in the Government to attain such an end."

The upshot of the day's proceedings was an agreement that the Steel Corporation would submit to the committee compilations showing general average costs and that the committee statistician should have access, if he so desired, to the original records from which these compilations were made.

In the summons citing him to appear Mr. Farrell was ordered to bring along books and records of the corporation itself and minute books of the subsidiary concerns, among them the papers of the Carnegie Steel Company prior to its absorption in 1901. Mr. Farrell testified that he was not the custodian of the papers of the subsidiaries, that he had no knowledge of their whereabouts and was in no way responsible for them.

As a result of Mr. Farrell's testimony in this regard subpœnas will be issued for the presidents of practically all the subsidiary steel companies, and they will be ordered to bring the records sought in the summons served on President Farrell.

President Farrell took issue with other corporation officials who have appeared as to the kind of laws that should be passed to regulate corporations. He disagreed with the view of Judge Gary, Andrew Carnegie and others that the Government should fix the prices for industrial corporations. He said the exercise of such a power would prove impracticable. Mr. Farrell recommended the creation of a board that would give publicity to the affairs of corporations and suggested that such board should have the power of forfeiture if it was shown that an industrial corporation sold at unreasonably high rates.

Referring to the Gary dinners Mr. Farrell denied that these functions were held as a means of evading the law aimed at combinations in restraint of trade. He took issue with the assertion of a member of the committee that $28 is an exorbitant price for rails and denied that that figure, which had been maintained for a long time, was fixed by agreement.

Discussing rails Mr. Farrell made a statement that excited a good deal of interest among the committeemen. He declared that the rail now in use in this country was too hard and brittle for safety. He thought the travelling public would be better safeguarded by a softer, heavier rail than the one now in use, which he contended contains too much carbon. Mr. Farrell said that the softer rail was more expensive, and this was the reason, he believed, why it was not used generally by railroads in this country.

Chairman Stanley questioned President Farrell in regard to the cost of production. The witness referred him to the United States Commissioner of Corporations for information on that subject. Mr. Stanley said he had looked for light in that direction but in vain.

"I regard data as to cost of production as vital to this inquiry," Chairman Stanley said. "The Commissioner of Corporations failed me and the Steel Corporation has also failed to enlighten me.

"There are some people who contend that organizations such as the Steel Corporation decrease cost production," continued Mr. Stanley. "Others contend that such combinations increase cost production. We want to get at the facts. How are we going to find out unless you enlighten us? How can we frame a tariff bill unless we ascertain the figures bearing on cost production? Without such information we would stumble around like a blind bear in a canebrake. But if there is power enough left in this Government we shall get these records."

Mr. Stanley told of a call he made at the White House to induce President Taft to authorize Commissioner of Corporations Smith to disclose data he had received from the Steel Corporation as to cost production. The President said he saw no reason why the Stanley committee should not have the information. "When I again saw Commissioner Smith," said Mr. Stanley, "I found he had returned the cost sheets to the corporation. He had the information in his head, but could not remember it. Like the arrow, it had gone and left no trace."

President Farrell was asked if it was not true that steel makers freely exchanged information as to cost and other details of the business.

"I am acquainted with every steel manufacturer in the country and I do not believe they exchange information with one another as to costs," said Mr. Farrell.

Representative Beall of Texas quoted from a speech made by Judge Gary at the Gary dinner of January, 1911, in which Judge Gary made the statement in substance that it was well for all concerned to meet and discuss questions of the trade fully and frankly.

"The object of these dinners was to enable men in the steel industry to become better acquainted," said Mr. Ferrell.

Mr. Beall quoted another section of the Gary speech in which the statement appeared: "No one around this table shall for a single moment forget the high moral obligation he is under toward his neighbor."

"What did Judge Gary mean by that?" Mr. Beall asked.

"Oh, I cannot tell you," responded the witness.

"Is it not a fact that the main point considered at those dinners was the question of profit?"

"No, sir; I never heard profit mentioned."

"In the course of the Gary speech under discussion Judge Garysaid: 'The question of maintaining prices of the commodities in which we deal is uppermost in our minds.' What did Judge Gary mean by that?" asked Mr. Beall.

"I think he referred to fluctuations of our securities in the market and not to the prices of our products," responded the witness.

President Farrell insisted that so far as he was concerned he wanted to maintain prices for the benefit of laborers employed by the steel corporation.

"Our policy is to keep up wages," said Mr. Farrell. "In 1907 the independents reduced wages. We continued at the old figure. The independents afterward came to the conclusion that it would not pay them to maintain a wage scale lower than ours."

Referring to Andrew Carnegie's statement that a combination was in existence that maintained prices, Mr. Farrell said: "Mr. Carnegie has not been in the business for eleven years. When he testified that a combination existed in the trade to hold up prices he was talking of matters on which he had no information."

The witness insisted that the price of steel rails at present is too low, considering the quality of materials the corporation has to supply the railroads. He denied that uniform rail prices is the manipulation of a price agreement in the trade on this particular product.

"It is a fact that the price of $28 a ton on steel rails has been fixed at that figure for a long time, but it is not a fact that that price is maintained by agreement," said Mr. Farrell.

SENATE COMMITTEES.

New Democratic Senators From Georgia and Maine Get Good Places.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—The following assignments of Democratic Senators to committees were announced to-day:

Senator Hoke Smith, Georgia—Agriculture and Forestry, Coast Defences, Coast and Insular Survey, Manufactures, Post Offices and Post Roads and University of the United States.

Senator Obadiah Gardner, Maine—Agriculture and Forestry, Conservation of Natural Resources, Cuban Relations, Pacific Railroads, Public Health and Marine Hospitals Service and University of the United States.

Senator Luke Lea, Tennessee, in addition to his present assignments, member of the Committee on Naval Affairs.

It was announced also that Senator Stone had become chairman of the Committee on Corporations organized in the District of Columbia, succeeding Senator Newlands of Nevada, who relinquished the place to Mr. Stone and will succeed Mr. Stone as chairman of the Committee on Revolutionary Claims.

NAMED BY THE PRESIDENT.

Cyrus E. Woods to Be New Minister to Portugal.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—The President sent to the Senate to-day the following nominations:

To be Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Portugal, Cyrus E. Woods of Pennsylvania.

To be United States Judge for the District of New Mexico, William H. Pope of New Mexico.

To be Treasurer of Porto Rico, Allan H. Richardson of Connecticut.

Judge Hook to Get Harlan's Place.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—It is practically certain that William C. Hook of the Eighth Judicial Circuit will be appointed to the vacancy in the Supreme Court of the United States, succeeding the late Associate Justice Harlan.

LICENSES FOR LAUNDRIES.

Committee Investigating Strike Will Recommend Legislation.

The laundries investigating committee of which George Gordon Battle is chairman, is in favor of legislation to regulate the hand laundries, it was stated yesterday. Copies of the committee's report, which gives details of the evils of the present system of carrying on the industry, will be sent to each Assemblyman and Senator with recommendations from the committee as to what legislation is thought necessary. Albert B. Unger, secretary of the committee, said last evening that he believed the hand laundries should be licensed.

"Why the steam laundries should drift into a system by which they depend for their work on the collecting agencies which are called hand laundries I cannot understand," he said, "but this system means two profits, one to the hand laundries as collecting agencies and the other to the steam laundries. In the present competition both among the hand laundries and the steam laundries these profits are cut to the lowest, and naturally the wages will be cut to the lowest figure. The system is perfectly ridiculous. My impression after my investigations is that as laundry work is a necessity it should be regulated as a public utility."

Commissioner W. C. Rogers, chief mediator of the State Board of Mediation and Arbitration, arrived here last night and announced that another meeting of the board to investigate the laundry strike will be held to-morrow in the offices of the Department of Labor, 381 Fourth avenue, at which will be present representatives both of the hand laundries and steam bundle laundries.

Men Ladies' Tailors Strike.

Solomon Rosman, organizer of the Ladies' Tailors Union, reported yesterday that strikes of its members were in progress in several shops in the Fifth avenue district to enforce demands for union conditions and a union agreement. The Brooklyn representatives of the union also reported that strikes of ladies' tailors were declared in ten shops in Brooklyn to enforce the same demands.

DEFAULTER WILL GO FREE.

His Service of 20 Years With Bank Softens Prosecution.

UTICA, Jan. 22.—George E. Kirkpatrick, bookkeeper at the National State Bank in Oneida and by his own confession a defaulter to the amount of $5,000, said in a statement made to-day that he took the money to pay his ordinary living expenses. He found his salary of $600 a year inadequate to support his family in the style demanded of him. He earned about $300 a year by doing other work.

The home which Kirkpatrick acquired during a service of more than twenty years with the bank has been surrendered in part payment of the defalcation.

Kirkpatrick at the age of 52 is without a home or job and it is believed has practically no resources. Directors of the bank admit that had not Kirkpatrick confessed when he saw an investigation of his books being made the guilt probably could never have been fastened on him. The bank, its directors say, will not resort to criminal prosecution.

FISHER CAN'T GET DIVORCE.

Two Decrees He Got Set Aside and a Third Denied.

After two interlocutory decrees of divorce had been set aside on allegations of fraud by the defendant Supreme Court Justice Greenbaum dismissed yesterday the suit of Robert Lee Fisher, a broker, against Florence E. Fisher on its third trial. Fisher named as corespondent Charles A. Prince, manager of a phonograph company. Justice Greenbaum said that Fisher thrust his wife upon Prince and that the whole case requires that the suit be dismissed.

Fingerprint Evidence in Murder Trial.

Joseph Roberts, a negro, was put on trial yesterday before Judge Foster in General Sessions for the murder of Isaac S. Vogel, a jewelery pedler whose body was found on the morning of December 6 lying beside the open door of the furnace in the cellar of 125 Canal street. Roberts ran an elevator in the building. Two jurors were chosen.

Fingerprints which were found on a silver cigarette case taken from Vogel will be part of the evidence against Roberts.

TO TEST DEMOCRATS ON BUILDINGS BILL

Rep. Fitzgerald Will Prove at Caucus Sincerity of Party in Economy Pledges.

INSISTS ON RETRENCHMENT

Says to Free Country From Tariff Law Schedules Reductions Are Necessary.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—In order to test the sentiment of the Democrats in the House and to ascertain if the party's pledges to retrench and economize are "mere vaporings or sincere pledges," Representative Fitzgerald of New York, chairman of the Appropriations Committee, announced to-day that he would present to the caucus called to pass on the iron and steel revision bill a resolution declaring "that the Democratic party deems it unwise to pass a public buildings bill at this session of Congress."

Last Saturday the Public Buildings and Grounds Committee of the House, of which Representative Sheppard of Texas is chairman, voted to report a $16,000,000 public building bill this winter, alarming Mr. Fitzgerald, Majority Leader Underwood and every other Democrat in the lower branch who is interested in carrying out the party pledges for economy. It was decided then to make the economy programme a caucus proposition and save time. Mr. Fitzgerald decided to introduce his resolution to-morrow.

"The Democratic party," said Mr. Fitzgerald in a statement issued to-day, "is under pledge to relieve the country from the burden of the existing tariff law. To do so it must reduce rates in practically all of the schedules. The bill prepared by the Ways and Means Committee to revise the metal schedule will make substantial reductions in rates and the estimate is that there will be a loss of about $800,000 in revenue as a result of the proposed revision.

"Sentiment for radical reductions in other schedules is widespread throughout the country. If the reductions advocated in many quarters in the sugar schedule be adopted the loss in revenue will be at least $30,000,000.

"It was realized that reductions in the existing tariff could not be effected without curtailment of the expenses of the Federal Government. To the necessity for such retrenchment, if tariff revision were to be honestly advocated, was the widespread belief that the Government is extravagantly conducted.

"Retrenchment in expenditures is essential to effective tariff reduction. The Committee on Appropriations will be able to do effective work to bring about the desired results. Its efforts will be unavailing, however, if authorizations for new projects and new services are to find favor during this session of Congress.

"The Treasury statement for Saturday, January 20, shows a deficit in ordinary receipts and expenditures of $27,272,417. On the same day last year the deficit was $6,933,165.

"With this statement confronting us the Democratic party cannot justify a public buildings bill at this session. If buildings were authorized they could not be commenced for several years.

"It is reported that the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds has decided to report a bill with authorizations aggregating $16,000,000. Should this be done, it is futile to attempt to enforce economies which will square with the promises of the party and the expectations of the country.

"To test the sentiment of the Democrats in the House and to ascertain whether the party's pledge to retrench and economize are empty vaporings or sincere pledges, I shall present to the Democratic caucus to-morrow a resolution declaring that the Democratic party deems it unwise to pass a public buildings bill at this session of Congress."

DR. WILEY EXONERATED.

House Committee Unanimous in Clearing Him of Charges.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—The House Committee on Expenditures in the Department of Agriculture, of which Representative Moss of Indiana is chairman, and which made an extensive investigation of the Wiley controversy during the special session of Congress last summer, to-day made public its report.

The report is signed by the entire membership of the committee, Republicans and Democrats alike. Dr. Wiley and his associates in the bureau of chemistry are absolved from the charge of conspiracy in connection with the employment of Dr. H. H. Rusby of New York, upon the basis of which their dismissal was recommended by the personnel board of the Department and concurred in by Secretary Wilson and Attorney-General Wickersham. But the Rusby contract itself is described as "of doubtful legislative policy." In this connection it is suggested that Congress should enact legislation to define the qualifications of experts and regulate their fees and compensation.

The report suggests that Secretary Wilson's attitude in the enforcement of the pure food law has been judicial, where it should have been administrative. The power of Solicitor McCabe, Dr Wiley's chief accuser, is characterized as too "dominant," and the committee reaches the conclusion that he should not have so much control over prosecutions brought under the pure food law. The report adds:

It is the opinion of the committee that the Rusby contract is of doubtful administrative policy and should be held to be invalid. It appears from the testimony of Dr. Wiley that the rates of Dr. Rusby's compensation were explained to the Secretary and the reasons therefor given at the time of his appointment. We therefore find from the evidence adduced that the charges of conspiracy have not been established, but on the contrary that the accused officials were actuated throughout solely by a desire to procure for the bureau of chemistry an efficient assistant in the person of Dr. H. H. Rusby, under terms and conditions which those officials believed to be in entire accord with the rules, regulations and practice of the Department of Agriculture.

Judge Donworth Withdraws Resignation.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—Judge George Donworth of Seattle, Wash., a United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington, has withdrawn his resignation, which was submitted to President Taft about two weeks ago. The withdrawal of Judge Donworth's resignation is the result of a bitter fight against the proposed appointment of Representative W. E. Humphrey of Washington, whose candidacy was advocated by Senator Jones. Senator Poindexter opposed the appointment of Mr. Humphrey.

Diplomatic Supply Bill Reduction.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—The supply bill for the maintenance of the diplomatic and consular service this year will carry about $8,500,000. This is $250,000 less than the amount of the estimates submitted to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs by Secretary of State Knox. The House committee will report the diplomatic bill next week.

HARPERS
For February

"The Street Called Straight"

The new serial novel by the Author of "The Inner Shrine."

Few serials have ever attracted such general attention by their opening chapters. It promises to outdo even the successes of those two notably successful books by the same author, "The Inner Shrine" and "The Wild Olive."

The most successful of American novelists writes, "Congratulations on 'The Street Called Straight,'—it begins with fine impetuosity of interest."

H. G. Wells on the Real Meaning of Socialism

A brilliant exposition of the beliefs of the thinking socialist of to-day—and a forecast of what socialism aims to accomplish.

Mark Twain in the Days of Roughing It.

Albert Bigelow Paine, the authorized biographer of the great humorist, writes of the early days when Mark Twain was a miner in Nevada and of the beginning of his literary career on one of the pioneer newspapers of the West—a period full of humor and romance.

A "Boy" Story and Some Others.

Particularly appealing is Forrest Crissey's story of a boy and his father—of the boy's revolt against what he believes to be an unjust order and what came of it. Other stories are by Howard Pyle, Mary Heaton Vorse, Norman Duncan, Elizabeth Jordan, E. S. Martin, Elinore Elliott Peake, Thomas A. Janvier, etc., etc.

Animal Instinct and Intelligence

Where does animal instinct end and intelligence begin? There are many views on this subject. Professor John B. Watson writes of the results of his recent experiments in this most interesting field.

HARPERS FOR FEBRUARY

ART SALES AND EXHIBITIONS. | ART SALES AND EXHIBITIONS.

American Art Galleries

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ON FREE VIEW 9 A. M. UNTIL 6 P. M.

SPECIAL EVENING VIEW

This (Tuesday), from 8 to 10 o'clock

"No one can afford to miss seeing these Beautiful Masterpieces, the Superb Imperial Jades and Crystals, and the Ancient Chinese Porcelains, Pottery and Bronzes of rare Distinction."

Unrestricted Public Sale

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At the American Art Galleries

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The sales will be conducted by MR. THOMAS E. KIRBY, of the

AMERICAN ART ASSOCIATION, Managers,

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PENSIONS FOR SERVICE.

Gen. Torrance Insists That Rewards Should Be Based on That Alone.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—Gen. Eli Torrance of Minneapolis, chairman of the legislative committee of the G. A. R., to-day told the Pension Committee of the Senate that the Grand Army favored a pension bill based on both age and service, carrying about $30,000,000 annually. Representative Isaac Sherwood of Ohio, author of the service pension bill bearing his name that recently passed the House, said that he was not wedded to any particular bill, but he insisted that service alone should be the test of reward.

The plan advocated by Gen. Torrance for the Grand Army is covered by a proposition originally suggested by Senator McCumber, chairman of the Senate Committee on Pensions. It proposes that pensions for veterans 62 years of age shall vary from $12 a month for ninety days service to $21 a month for three years service; that sixty-six-year-old veterans shall have $15 a month for ninety days and $24 a month for three years service; that seventy-year-old veterans shall receive $18 for ninety days service and $27 for three years' service; that veterans 75 years old shall receive $21 a month for ninety days service and $30 for three year's service. It is estimated that under this scheme there would be 387,957 pensioners, receiving in the aggregate $30,984,120.

The committee took no action.

Intermountain Rate Case Advanced.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—The Supreme Court to-day advanced the so-called "Intermountain rate case" and set it for hearing February 19, after cases already set down for that date are disposed of. This case involves the order of the Interstate Commerce Commission under the long and short haul clause of the last railway act.

FOR TWO BATTLESHIPS.

Contracts Signed for Construction of the Nevada and Oklahoma.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—Contracts for the construction of two battleships were signed for the Navy Department this afternoon by acting Secretary Winthrop.

The ships are to be called the Nevada and the Oklahoma. The Fore River Shipbuilding Company of Quincy, Mass., will built one for $5,890,000, with Curtiss compound turbine engines. The sum of $40,000 was deducted from their original bid by the omission of the provision for magazine refrigerating plant, which the Navy Department will have installed by other arrangements.

The New York Shipbuilding Company of Camden, N. J., will build the other battleship for $5,926,000. This vessel will be equipped with reciprocating engines. Both ships are to be constructed within thirty-six months of date of contract.

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