

TAFT SIGNS RIVER AND HARBOR BILL

Big Pork Barrel Measure Is Nearly Vetoed.

OBJECTS TO PIECEMEAL PLAN

The President informs Congress that hereafter he will expect it to proceed along more systematic lines—yearly appropriations do not give work proper attention.

President Taft signed the river and harbor bill carrying \$23,000,000, yesterday afternoon, but in doing so he served notice upon Congress that it need never expect to get his approval to another river and harbor measure drawn along the old familiar lines.

The President made the shivers run up and down the backs of some Representatives when they learned from his message how close they had come to losing this big pork-barrel measure.

The President said that he had made up his mind at one time to veto the bill in the hope of establishing a reform in such appropriations, but he had concluded that such action would result in too great damage to projects already under way.

Objection to Piecemeal.

What the President objects to chiefly is the piecemeal method of appropriation for river and harbor improvements, and he informs Congress that in the future he will expect it to proceed along more systematic lines, first determining what undertakings are feasible and the most urgent, and then making sufficient appropriations for these comparatively few projects to insure their completion in a reasonably short time.

Mr. Taft believes that the appropriation of small sums from year to year lessens the sense of responsibility of those under whom the work is to be done, and therefore they do not give the work the proper attention and care, thus opening the door to so many of the evils of government work. It was said, moreover, that under the present method of appropriations the advocates of any project find it much easier to exact money from each Congress for the furtherance of the work.

The President condemned, however, the proposal to have a regular yearly harbor and rivers bill.

Detriment to Commerce.

The message strongly brought out the fact that the great length of time required to complete channels, canals, &c., was a means of discouraging trade and travel. He said that Congress should refer the projects to boards of army engineers for further consideration and recommendation.

Objection was also made to the present system of having army engineers pass on the facility of projects only and entirely ignoring their relative importance. It was urged that a competent board be selected to pass on the importance of the various projects that come up from year to year.

NOMINATED IN INDIANA.

Former Judge Heaton Republican Choice for Congress.

Kendallville, Ind., June 25.—Former Judge Owen N. Heaton, of Fort Wayne, was nominated for Congress by the Republicans of the Twelfth district at their convention to-day. He had no opposition. The resolutions uphold strongly the general principle of a protective tariff, and ascribe tariff evils to faults of schedules. The Payne-Aldrich tariff act is entirely ignored, but a strong demand is made for a permanent tariff commission. President Taft and his administration and Senator Beveridge are approved.

VOTE SET FOR COLD DAY.

Senate Reaches Agreement on the Forest Reserve Bill.

The Senate reached an agreement to vote on the Appalachian-White Mountain forest reserve bill February 15, when it will be the order of business that day. Senator Newlands objected until he received assurances from several Senators in favor of the bill that they would agree to his amendment for the creation of a commission to consider all conservation problems.

The agreement for a vote ended the three-day filibuster.

Largest Morning Circulation.

SPEAKER CANNON REVIEWS WORK OF THE LEGISLATORS

"Measured by Character of Work Accomplished, and Not by Volume of Business, Sixty-first Congress Has Made Record," Asserts Uncle Joe.

In the dying hours of the present session, Uncle Joe Cannon gave out a statement, giving his opinion of the work accomplished thus far in the Sixty-first Congress.

Said he: "In my judgment, the two sessions of the Sixty-first Congress have accomplished more and done better work than any other Congress of which I have been a member. It has rarely occurred that a Congress enacting a new tariff law has accomplished much else save handling the appropriations for the government. "This Congress has not only revised the tariff without disturbing business, but it has enacted important legislation amending the interstate commerce law, giving greater power, and creating a court of commerce, and this without serious affecting the business of the railroads or checking their increase of wages to their employees.

Definition of Statesmanship.

"This seems to me to meet the definition of statesmanship in legislation, and I can say this without selfish pride, because the legislation was enacted under the leadership of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, with the Hon. James R. Mann as chairman.

"This Congress has also enacted a postal savings bank law, which is entirely new legislation, blazing a new trail in law-making in this country.

"In my judgment, this is the best illustration of party legislation we have had in many years, and it fully justifies the necessity for party action in a great legislative body. If there had not been party solidarity on this bill, there would have been no legislation creating postal savings banks."

Mr. Cannon reviewed the other measures which have been passed in this session, and added:

Review of Measures.

"The appropriations have been large, but not nearly as large as demanded by the people who were agitating over the development of the various departments of the government. There has not been a single appropriation bill that has not been increased by a report from the House over the report from the committee. This would seem to indicate that the demand for economy is like the demands for reduction of the tariff, and always applies to the appropriations other than those in which the agitators are interested.

"The people who want a larger navy are willing to economize on everything else; and the same is true of those who want large appropriations for the Department of Agriculture, for the army, for the improvement of rivers and harbors, for public buildings, and for all the other activities of the Federal government.

"The Democrats have talked about economy, but they have helped enlarge every appropriation, and there are bills introduced by Democrats and not acted upon which would call for \$50,000,000 additional expenditure. So, I take it, their talk of economy is Plokiwian.

"As I said in the beginning, the work of this Congress has been greater than any other with which I have been identified as a member, and it has been constructive legislation in the face of destructive tactics and efforts to create factional strife.

Misunderstood by Press.

"These efforts, I regret to say, have received more attention in the public press than the real work of legislation, and having given so much space to these revolutionary efforts, at the expense of the record of work, it is not surprising that some of the editors should suddenly discover in these reports from the Senate and House last days that the Republican platform pledges the Republican platform, and then jump at the conclusion that this work has been done in haste before adjournment, instead of being the painstaking effort of seven months by the committees and the members of Congress.

"This work of legislation has gone on quietly but effectively, while those who view Congress from a distance have been assuming that the House was doing nothing but changing its rules. The changes of rules have contributed to the pleasure and perhaps to the power of some individuals in the House; but the current of legislation

PRESIDENT SCORES A SIGNAL VICTORY

Session Leaves Remarkable Record of Legislation.

TAFT'S TACT TURNS TRICKS

All His Propositions Get Solid Party Vote in Both Houses, Something Roosevelt Had Not Done Since La Follette Entered Senate—Fight Over Rules Claimed by Executive.

The session of Congress which came to an end last night leaves a remarkable record of legislation.

Mr. Roosevelt, when he was in the White House, referred to the first session of the Fifty-ninth Congress as having done more substantial work for good than any other Congress since he had become familiar with public affairs. Yet the record of the first session of the Fifty-ninth Congress does not compare, either in length or importance, with the list of measures that have been placed upon the statute books in the last seven months.

Indeed, it has been said by old-time members of Congress here that the record of the session that has just closed has exceeded that of any single session since the civil war days.

Buried Under Criticisms.

Two months ago it seemed as if the White House was almost buried under the steady flow of criticism. The President himself seemed discouraged.

The result of Taft's tact, it is claimed, is that on all of his important measures he got the solid party vote in both the House and the Senate—something that President Roosevelt had not succeeded in doing since Robert M. La Follette entered the Senate.

The fight over the rules in the House also presented a situation which might easily have wrecked the Taft legislative programme if Mr. Taft had not been tactful. Here are the more important measures that President Taft urged upon and obtained from Congress:

Important Measures Passed.

The railroad bill, extending the regulatory power of the government over common carriers by rail. The establishment of postal savings banks.

The creation of a commission to inquire into stock and bond issues of railroads, with a view to ascertaining if they have been watered or not, and recommending legislation to Congress.

Publicity of campaign contributions in Congressional and national elections. The creation of a Bureau of Mines and Mining, with an appropriation of \$92,000 for its administration.

Admission of Arizona and New Mexico into separate States. Authority granted to the President to withdraw certain classes of public lands from entry in campaign of the national conservation policy.

An issue of \$20,000,000 of certificates of indebtedness authorized for the completion of irrigation projects already begun, but held up on account of a lack of funds.

Increase in the navy by construction of two first-class battle ships, four torpedo boats, and other craft.

Not in Party Platform.

The following legislation was enacted upon the President's recommendation, although not included in the party platform:

The creation of a commission with a view to obtaining facts on which the Federal departments may be reorganized in the interest of economy.

Laws aimed at the suppression of the "white slave" traffic. The reorganization of the Lighthouse Service.

Comparatively few propositions, as recommended by the President and failed. These are some of the items which the President recommended, but which were not enacted into law:

Legislation defining the power of Federal courts to issue injunctions. The creation of a new Bureau of Public Health.

The creation of a commission to simplify and expedite procedure of Federal courts.

A new form of government for Alaska. Amendment to the Sherman anti-trust law permitting the Federal incorporation of corporations engaged in interstate commerce.

Possible Danger Feared.

The President by no means has dropped these propositions. The anti-injunction legislation was not called up because the leaders of Congress thought it might jeopardize at this time the rest of the Taft programme, and the proposition to establish a national health bureau stirred up widespread opposition among homeopaths.

Considerable legislation was enacted that was not either recommended by the President or included in the national platform.

All told, more than 27,000 bills, public and private, were introduced in the House alone, together with some 1,200 resolutions of a public nature. The Senate

ate sent to the House about 1,000 bills and resolutions. By no means the least important work of the House was the changing of the rules governing that body. The Committee on Rules, through which the Speaker is supposed to have exercised his so-called czarlike power, was enlarged, and was made elective, instead of appointive, the Speaker himself being eliminated from the committee.

G. O. P. BOASTING SCORED BY CLARK

Democrats Deserve Some Credit, He Declares.

IMPUGNS LEADERS' SINCERITY

Minority House Leader Declares Few Promises to Country Have Been Kept—Designates Tariff Law as Worst that Has Ever Been Enacted—Praises the Insurgents.

The Democratic leaders of the House do not propose to let the Republicans get away with too much credit.

"They have been listening to the reports going out of Washington within the past few weeks that President Taft has achieved a wonderful record in the way of laws put on the statute books, and reports from other quarters that the sentiment of the country generally was turning in favor of the President."

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"The Republican Party at last began their old game of claiming everything, but it is another case of whistling to keep their courage up while going through a graveyard. They are now bragging that they have fulfilled their promises. Certain of their minor promises they have fulfilled to a certain extent."

"Their biggest promise—i. e., the promise to revise the tariff downward—they utterly failed to fulfill. On the contrary, they revised it upward, and for so doing are in for a good trouncing."

Criticizes Tariff Bill.

"All the hired arithmeticians they can set to figuring will never convince the people that the Payne-Aldrich-Smoot tariff bill is an improvement upon the Dingley bill, against which the protest was made. Everything that people consume is higher, and the most ridiculous document ever published by man holding high position since Gutenberg invented movable type is the Lodge committee's Senate report on the cost of living, which leaves out the fact that the cost of living is higher, but nothing better could be expected from the man who in 1909 declared that 'the ultimate consumer is a myth.'"

"At Winona, Minn., President Taft declared that the woolen schedule is too high and out to be reduced. It is nearly eleven months since the tariff bill was signed by him, and yet no step has been taken to lower the cruel rates of that schedule. They can whip it up as much as they please about fulfilling promises, but nobody will believe them so long as that schedule remains unrevoked. And there are other promises of the same kind."

Party Falls at Economy.

"They started into this session with loud pronouncements about economy, and wound up, as usual, by increasing the total of the appropriation bills.

"The most important bill, perhaps, passed at this session was the railroad rate bill. The bill, as passed, is a very different and much better bill than the Wickersham or administration bill. The interstate-commerce committee bill is an improvement on the Wickersham bill; the House bill is an improvement on the committee bill, and almost every improvement was forced into that bill by the Democrats and insurgents in the House and Senate. Three times we came within one vote in the House of knocking out the commerce court, an utterly useless and most extravagant provision. Most of the good bills and good health, and good law belongs to the regular Republicans."

"But whether that bill is good or bad, or whoever is responsible for it, or whether it carries out any promise made by anybody, the fact remains that the Payne-Aldrich-Smoot tariff bill is the worst ever passed by the American Congress, and utterly fails to fulfill the campaign promises of the Republicans."

Victory Against Rules.

"At the beginning of the extraordinary session much sport was made of Democrats and insurgent Republicans because they proposed to liberalize the rules of the House and emancipate the members thereof; but time at last sets all things even, and on March 19 we forced through a resolution to elect an enlarged Rules Committee, of which the Speaker should not be a member. A few days ago, by a vote of 291 to 1, the House adopted a rule to prevent the members from smothering or pigeon-holing bills. Certainly the regular Republicans cannot claim any sort of credit for the new rule of March 19, for every mother's son of them not only voted against it, but fought it tooth and nail."

"The regulars cannot, with straight faces, claim that they are responsible for the anti-smothering rule lately adopted. The leaders of Congress thought it might jeopardize at this time the rest of the Taft programme, and the proposition to establish a national health bureau stirred up widespread opposition among homeopaths."

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A further change in the rules, which will have marked effect on the procedure in the House in future sessions, was that providing for the discharge of a committee from consideration of a measure need paying the way for its being called up in the House.

Italy Believed Ready TO DROP CHARLTON CASE.

The belief is growing among Federal officers in Washington that the Italian government will decline to make a formal request for Porter Charlton's extradition.

While the officers of the State Department will not discuss the question, it is generally understood that the United States and Italy are engaged in telegraphic correspondence over the question.

It is believed that Secretary of State Knox has made representations to the Italian foreign office for the purpose of ascertaining the attitude of the Italian government.

The delay of the Italian government in informing the United States of its intentions is accepted here as evidence that Italy does not intend to ask for his surrender and extradition to Italy for trial.

It was pointed out that a formal request for his extradition would have been received from the Italian government shortly after his arrest if it was his desire that Charlton should be tried in Italy.

Legal officers of the department decline to indicate the character of the instructions to be sent to Recorder McGovern, of Hoboken, for his guidance in handling the case. Recorder McGovern asked the department of Justice Friday afternoon for instructions. His request was forwarded to the State Department by Solicitor General Bowers, who is acting as Attorney General.

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CONGRESS OUT.

Continued from Page One.

Former years, were tame in the extreme. Similar scenes marked the closing hours of the session at the Senate end, where Frisby never has place.

President Taft went to the Capitol early, and in the President's room at the Senate, surrounded by a group of notables, signed the bills which were hurried through late.

Not a Song Sung.

The scenes of enthusiasm, license, and disorder that heretofore have marked the adjournment of the House were lacking. Not a song was sung, not a funny speech was made. And not a single member of that body showed up in the closing hours mellow or illuminated.

At the last moment in the House the white dove of peace fluttered about and settled upon the rostrum of the Speaker. "Uncle Joe," just before announcing formal adjournment at 11:35 p. m., actual time, made a short speech full of sentiment.

Referring, indirectly, to the recent insurrection which resulted in clipping the wings of his power, the Speaker said he was going back to Danville without malice. He owed no one, either as speaker or as a member, an apology, and he hoped all other members could say the same. He wished the House good luck and good health, and hoped to see them all back in December.

Then the Cannon gavel banged, and the session came to a close at the same moment that the Senate at the other end of the Capitol was declared adjourned by Vice President Sherman.

Leaves Hall Quietly.

The Representatives departed from the hall quietly and apparently priorly under the spell cast upon the body earlier in the evening when the House passed a resolution directing an investigation of grave charges made against one of its members by Senator Gore, of Oklahoma, in the Senate.

Another unusual feature of the closing session in the House was the failure to present the usual resolution of thanks to the Speaker. This bit of courtesy has heretofore flowed from the minority. But this year no resolution of thanks was presented, and the knowing ones said it was due to a desire to avoid precipitating the issue of "Cannonism" and still further darkening the closing hours of the House.

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Negro Seaman on Trial.

Annapolis, Md., June 25.—C. H. Perkins, a negro seaman, attached to the old frigate Hartford, of the Naval Academy, was placed on trial before a summary court-martial to-day on charges growing out of an assault committed upon Chief Quartermaster Kenearly, also of the Hartford, a few days ago, as a result of which he hit a piece out of Kenearly's breast.

Falls Into Harvester.

Hagerstown, Md., June 25.—While oiling his binder in the harvest field, Otis Smith, a well-known farmer of the Leesburg district, was knocked down by the sudden starting of the horse and fell directly into the harvesting machine. He was terribly gashed on the legs and body, a number of small arteries being cut and several tendons severed.

GAS OVERCOMES SCORE.

Fire Fighters Endangered by Calcium Light Explosions.

New York, June 25.—More than a score of firemen were overcome to-day by poisonous fumes while fighting a cellar fire in the Wilson Building, which takes up the entire block bounded by Hudson, Bank, Eleventh, and Bleecker streets.

The fire was in the storage room of the New York Calcium Light Company, where several hundred tanks of gases were waiting shipment. Hundreds of explosions shook the neighborhood when the flame reached the gases, and the lives of the firemen were constantly in danger.

Harmon Carries Passenger.

Garden City, Long Island, June 25.—About 1,500 persons witnessed airplane flights made early this evening by Clifford B. Harmon and Capt. Thomas Baldwin. Mr. Harmon made two ascensions, and in the last one carried Sydney Smith as a passenger.

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