RIGHTS OF SENATE

Senator Cullom Speaks on the Reciprocity Treaties.

SOLDIERS IN THE REVOLUTION

No House Committee Responded When Called.

AN EARLY ADJOURNMENT

Rev. Dr. Couden, chaplain of the House of Representatives, pronounced the invocation at the opening of the Senate's session today.

At the conclusion of routine business a bill providing for the use by the United States of devices invented by its naval officers while engaged in its service and covered by letters patent was passed.

Mr. Cullom (Ill.) then addressed the Senate on the subject of reciprocity treaties.

Senator Cullom's Remarks.

Mr. Cullom of Illinois, chairman of the committee on foreign relations, addressed the Senate on the constitutionality of that portion of the Dingley act which authorized the negotiations of reciprocity treaties. He said that the wording of the provision was peculiar and mixed, but it seemed plain that all treaties negotiated must have been made and ratified within two years after the passage of the act. Therefore, if that act is to control it would be useless to ratify the treaties. Senator Cullom continued:

"In my opinion, the fourth section of the Dingley act, so far as it attempts to confer, limit or define the treaty-making power, is not only an interference with the powers of the President and Senate, but is unconstitutional, because it comes in conflict with that clause of the Constitution which says that the President 'shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties.' We do not, therefore, derive our treaty-making powers from a law of Congress, and no law of Congress can in any way modify or limit those powers. The Dingley act cannot limit the time in which we shall be allowed to make a treaty."

Mr. Cullom contended that the fourth section of the Dinglay act should be taken as a mere expression of the view of the Congress and that the President did not need authority to make the treaties.

He entered into a long discussion of the proceedings of the constitutional convention relative to the treaty-making power and claimed that all precedents showed such power was conferred solely upon the President and Senate. The reciprocity treaties concluded with Hawaii, Mexico and Canada did not go into effect until Congress acted, but these treaties contained an expression that they could not become effective without congressional action.

Raising Revenue.

Mr. Cullom discussed the provision of the Constitution declaring that bills for raising revenue must originate in the House, and said that it had not been definitely settled what was meant by "bills for raising revenue." He addeded:

"From the decisions and statements of Justices Story, Miller and Harlan I cannot see how this clause could make it necessary to submit a reciprocity treaty to the House before it becomes effective. The language of the clause is that all bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House and not all bills affecting revenue, or in which revenue may incidentally arise. A reciprocity treaty is not a bill. It is true that it reduces a duty which has been laid by law, but I maintain that the treaty-making power has authority to change a tariff law the same as is has authority to change any other act of Congress, and we have seen that it has been clearly held, from the decision of Chief Justice Marshall down to the present, that the President and Senate, by treaty, can change or modify a law of Congress."

An Old Question.

Mr. Cullom also said:

"This question before us here has been before the Senate for a hundred years. The executive and Senate have taken one position, and that is that a treaty is the supreme law of the land. That position has been sustained by the Supreme Court. On the other hand, during all these hundred years, the House of Representatives has, as a rule, insisted that they should be considered in reference to certain treaties. That does not relieve us (the Senate) of the duty of standing for our prerogatives and our rights, and insisting that the rights of the executive shall be maintained. A treaty made by the executive and ratified by the Senate is the supreme law of the land as well as an act of Congress. If the Congress is not satisfied with the treaty, it has a perfect right to repeal it, let the consequences be what they may. But until such action is taken the treaty remains a part of our municipal law."

Bills Passed.

At the conclusion of Mr. Cullom's speech bills were passed as follows: Appropriating $500,000 for the purchase of additional ground and for the enlargement of the public building at Atlanta, Ga.; authorizing the city of Duluth, Minn., to construct a car transfer over the Duluth canal and for that purpose to occupy certain lands of the United States; providing $3,200 additional for the establishment of a light house and fog signal station at Browns Point, on Commencement bay, Washington.

Southern Troops in Revolution.

Addressing the Senate, Mr. Money said the senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Hoar) made a statement a few days ago to the effect that the state of Massachusetts had furnished more troops in the war of the revolution than all that section south of what is known as Mason and Dixon's line. The figures had been taken, it was stated, from a report of Gen. Knox, the first Secretary of War. Expressing his entire belief that the Massachusetts senator would not wittingly present anything to the Senate but the facts, Mr. Money read from authorities to show that the southern section of the country had furnished its full quota of troops, Virginia supplying 56,722 and South Carolina 31,131. The latter state had furnished 37 out of every 42 citizens capable of bearing arms, while Massachusetts had furnished 32 out of every 42. He read extensive extracts from historical authorities in maintenance of his position.

Mr. Hoar Responds.

Mr. Hoar, in a statement replete with historical allusions, explained that in whatever he may have said upon the subject referred to by Mr. Money he had no purpose of instituting a comparison between any sections of the country. He said he had stated in passing what he wished he had not stated—that in addition to the force of sailors furnished by Massachusetts the state had supplied a greater number of land troops than all states south of the Potomac. He said he would be the last person in the world to disparage the efforts of the southern states in the war for independence.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

When the House met today Mr. Henry (Conn.) reported the oleomargarine bill from the committee on agriculture. With the report were submitted the views of the minority of the committee and the substitute offered by them. There being no special order and no appropriation bills ready the committees were called.

Not a single committee responded and Mr. Payne (N. Y.), the majority floor leader, remarked sententiously that later on in the session members would complain that they had no opportunity under the rules to secure consideration for their bills.

Mr. Hopkins (Ill.) reported the permanent census bill and gave notice that he would call it up tomorrow.

Mr. Maddox (Ga.) protested that the time was too short for members to familiarize themselves with the measure.

Mr. Henry (Conn.) asked unanimous consent that the oleomargarine bill be made a special order for Monday, Feruary 3. The request met with a chorus of objections from the democratic side. Then, at 12:25 p.m., the House adjourned.

GOVERNOR TAFT ARRIVES

AT ONCE CONFERS WITH THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

Will Be the Latter's Guest in Washington—Excuses Himself to Reporters.

Judge Taft, civil governor of the Philippines, arrived here this afternoon at 1:15 o'clock from his home in Cincinnati, where he made a short stop on his trip across the country from San Francisco. The train was nearly an hour late in consequence of the prevailing storm. Governor Taft, who was unaccompanied, was met at the railroad station by General Corbin, adjutant general of the army, and getting into an automobile was taken to the War Department and shown at once into the private office of Secretary Root, who was awaiting his arrival. The latter intended to have met the distinguished traveler at the station, but was prevented by a press of business at the department, and it was at his suggestion that General Corbin did the honors.

After an exchange of greetings, Secretary Root took charge of Gov. Taft, and they went to the Secretary's house on Rhode Island avenue, where luncheon was served. Judge Taft will be the Secretary's guest so long as he remains in Washington. Although he shows signs of the recent severe illness through which he has passed, Gov. Taft looks in fairly good health, and says that he is feeling well. He excused himself to the reporters this afternoon, on the ground that he had not yet fully recovered from the fatigue of travel.

During the afternoon Gov. Taft gave Secretary Root an oral account of the condition of affairs in the Philippines at the time he left there, about six weeks ago, and briefly outlined the character of the legislation which, in his opinion, is necessary to meet the requirements of the situation and to develop the material resources of the islands. The main purpose of Gov. Taft's visit to Washington at this time is to confer with President Roosevelt and other officials of the government in regard to the legislative enactments necessary to the establishment of peace and prosperity in the Philippines. It is expected that he will be heard by the congressional committees considering the various measures affecting the government of the Philippines, but no plans have yet been made.

TO INCREASE WATER SUPPLY.

Supplemental Estimate for $75,000 Transmitted by Secretary of Treasury.

A supplemental estimate of $75,000 for the completion of the work for increasing the water supply of the District was today transmitted to the House by the Secretary of the Treasury. The estimate is accompanied by letters from the District Commissioners and from Col. A. M. Miller, in charge of the Washington aqueduct tunnel. Col. Miller itemizes the estimates, which are for iron fencing around the reservoir, outside fencing, roads, walks, ditches and drains around the reservoir, grading and improving the grounds and the erection of houses for the gatekeeper and watchmen, and other work of this nature.

SUES FOR $25,000.

Mrs. Baker Alleges Alienation of Her Husband's Affection.

Alleging that the defendant has alienated the affections of Nathan H. Baker, the plaintiff's husband, Mrs. Fannie B. Baker, through Attorneys Davis and Tucker, today, in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, filed suit at law against Elizabeth D. Robinson, to recover damages in the sum of $25,000.

According to Mrs. Baker, her husband's affection for her has been wrongfully, wickedly and unjustly destroyed by the defendant. The latter, so the court is informed, persuaded, induced and caused Mr. Baker to leave Mrs. Baker, and live with the defendant. It is added that he continues to live with her.

By reason of the alleged alienation, Mrs. Baker declares, she has wholly lost and been deprived of the comfort, fellowship, society, aid, assistance and support of her husband in her domestic and personal affairs.

The plaintiff and her husband, it is stated in the declaration, have been residents of the District of Columbia since May 18, 1898.

REPORTS ON PENDING BILLS.

Commissioners Pass Upon Measures for Street Improvements.

The District Commissioners have made a report to the Senate District committee on the bill providing for the extension of Albemarle street northwest from Rock Creek Park to its intersection with 42d street northwest. The Commissioneds say that the total cost of the extension as contemplated by the bill would be $65,000. They are in favor of modifying the provisions of the bill to extend the street west only as far as Grant road, the total cost of which would be $38,000.

The Commissioners have also reported on the proposed amendment to the District appropriation bill providing for paving Holmead avenue from Whitney avenue to Lydecker avenue and Lydecker avenue to 13th street. They say that this pavement if laid will not connect with any existing paved roadway, whereas it is the policy of the Commissioners that paved roadways shall extend from the city proper in unbroken lines.

The Commissioners have estimated for the paving of Whitney avenue from 14th street to Holmead avenue. This would form the necessary connecting link. The Commissioners say, however, that the item for Whitney avenue is far down on the list and it is doubtful if it will be reached this year. The Commissioners say the two items for paving should be provided at the same time.

TEN PERISH IN A FIRE.

Fatal Blaze in Italian Lodging House in Boston.

BOSTON, January 29.—Ten persons perished in a fire which broke out early today in an Italian lodging house in Fleet street. Four other occupants of the house were injured in jumping from windows. The financial loss was only a few hundred dollars.

The list of dead is as follows:

Louis Pilato, proprietor of the lodging house.
Madaline Pilato, his wife.
Joseph Salanto, father of Mrs. Pilato.
Raffaele Desco.
Madaline Desco, his wife.
Jennie Donetto.
Antoinette Donetto.
Sabatelli Dandi.
Baby not identified.
Unidentified man.

BROKER COMMITS SUICIDE.

Lane B. Schofield of Boston Firm Shoots Himself.

BOSTON, January 29.—Lane B. Schofield, senior member of the firm of Schofield, Whicher & Co., bankers and brokers of this city, committed suicide today by shooting himself at his home in Newtonville. Mr. Schofield was in his office all day yesterday and performed his usual duties. He did not leave until late in the day and seemed to be in the best of spirits. Mr. Whicher, his partner, in an interview today admitted that Mr. Schofield had experienced financial reverses due to unfortunate ventures, but said: "The affairs of Schofield, Whicher & Co. are all right at this moment. It will be impossible to find out our exact condition for several days."

Mr. Whicher would not discuss the nature of any speculation in which Mr. Schofield had engaged.

Contract for Custom House Awarded.

The contract for the erection of the new United States custom house building in Baltimore, designed by Hornblower & Marshall, architects of this city, was yesterday awarded by Secretary Gage to Henry Smith & Sons of Baltimore, whose bid was $792,992. The bid of Arthur Cowsill of this city, $807,000, ranked third in the list, a New York man standing second with a bid of $803,916.

TRUSTEES ARE HERE

To Arrange for the Carnegie Institution.

CONFERENCES WITH THE FOUNDER

He Will Not Indicate Wishes Regarding a Program.

FIRST MEETING TODAY

The board of trustees of the Carnegie Institution met in the diplomatic room at the State Department this afternoon with a full attendance of members, and practical steps were taken for the organization of the institution. General officers are to be chosen and a plan of administration formulated.

The necessary committees will be appointed to perfect the organization. The proceedings were conducted behind closed doors, with the understanding that a statement of the business transacted would be furnished the press at the adjournment of the meeting. It is generally believed that Dr. Daniel C. Gilman of Maryland, formerly president of Johns Hopkins University, will be chosen as the executive head of the institution.

The corridors of the second floor of the New Willard hummed this morning with the conversation of the almost innumerable callers on Mr. Andrew Carnegie, who presented themselves to pay their respects and to comment on the new scientific institution which is to bear his name. Practically every distinguished guest in the hotel and many from other hotels called on Mr. Carnegie, and the assembly included several figures of notable and national importance. To them all, if their versions of the interviews are to be accepted, the Scotch American talked of his gift to the cause of science in only the most general terms. After luncheon Mr. Carnegie and the members of the board of trustees of the new institution went directly to the State Department for the initial meeting of the board and the first material step toward organizing for the administration of the $10,000,000 endowment.

Arrival of the Trustees.

All of the trustees are at the Willard, excepting those who are members of the board ex-officio, those who reside here, and the following who were unable to reach Washington: Henry L. Higginson of Massachusetts, Henry Hitchcock of Missouri and Dr. Andrew D. White of New York, ambassador to Germany. Dr. John S. Billings of New York city arrived early this morning. The others of the party all came yesterday afternoon, several hours in advance of Mr. Carnegie, and were as follows: Dr. Daniel C. Gilman of Baltimore, former president of Johns Hopkins University, and Mrs. Gilman; Judge W. W. Morrow of San Francisco and Mrs. Morrow, Dr. S. Wier Mitchell of Philadelphia; Mr. Abram S. Hewitt, former mayor of New York city; Mr. D. Ogden Mills of New York city, widely known as a banker and financier; Mr. Charles L. Hutchinson of Chicago, vice president of the Corn Exchange National Bank and one of the most prominent business men of the west; Mr. N. W. Freer of Pittsburg, who is prominent in the business interests of that city and an associate of Mr. Carnegie in many of the latter's enterprises local to western Pennsylvania.

Most of these gentlemen were met by Mr. Charles D. Walcott, director of the geological survey, who has served as pro tempore secretary of the board. Mr. Walcott was evidently prepared for Mr. Carnegie's coming and stood in readiness to confer with him immediately after his arrival, some few minutes before 9 o'clock last night. The patron of the new institution and Mrs. Carnegie, with the latter's maid, had walked to the hotel from the 6th street station and entered the elevator without the formality of registering. In the car he encountered Mr. Mills and the two old friends greeted each other warmly. The suite assigned Mr. Carnegie is on the second floor, in the southeast corner of the building and just above what is known as the President's suite. Mr. Walcott was Mr. Carnegie's only caller last night, and the director said this morning that they merely discussed the arrangements for the meeting this afternoon.

Conference With Mr. Carnegie.

Dr. Gilman, Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Walcott, Mr. Mills and several others talked together in the lobby of the hotel this morning, Dr. and Mrs. Gilman taking station in the ladies' parlor on the first floor and meeting each of the trustees in turn. The entire party, excepting Mrs. Gilman, went to Mr. Carnegie's rooms at about 10 o'clock and remained with him until nearly luncheon time. Their conference was entirely informal. It was, to quote one of the local members of the board, merely an opportunity to pay their respects to Mr. Carnegie. It developed, however, that this lack of detailed discussion of the institution was entirely intentional on Mr. Carnegie's part. It was his purpose, he told them, to intrust the control of the endowment to their judgment absolutely, and he had no desire to influence that judgment in any way.

To his other callers, as well as to the custodians of the endowment fund, Mr. Carnegie was all smiles and cordiality. Secretary Wilson was the first to arrive. Soon afterward Senators Scott and Elkins were shown to his rooms. Then came Gov. Budd of California. After the arrival of the last named the trustees of the institution were shown to the apartments and the conference grew into something of a levee.

No Plan Yet Drafted.

The meeting of the trustees is expected to continue through two days. Mr. Gilman and Mr. Walcott both stated this morning that to their knowledge no member of the board had come to Washington with a plan of organization drafted to submit to the meeting of this afternoon. A general desire prevailed, said Dr. Gilman, that every detail of the organization should be freely discussed by the entire board and that the completed scheme of administration should be the result of such a discussion. He had talked of the scope of the institution with Mr. Carnegie several times and understood, he thought, what the donor of the endowment hoped might be done, but the subject of practical organization had not been gone into and the field of the institution had already been thoroughly stated in the newspapers. Since his arrival in Washington Dr. Gilman said he had hardly referred to the institution in his conversations with Mr. Carnegie.

Officers of the Institution.

Neither Dr. Gilman nor any of the other trustees had heard any suggestions as to the officers of the institution. It was not even known, said they, that there would be a president and secretary in the general acceptance of those terms. When the board convened it would first provide for the administration of the fund, it was stated, and subsequently for the officers necessary for such administration. But until a scheme of organization had been adopted it was futile to talk of selections for the offices of the institution.

A well-defined impression prevails, however, that Dr. Gilman had been tacitly agreed upon as chairman of the board of control, chancellor of the university, president of the institution, or by whatever name the executive of the institution might be denominated. Before Mr. Carnegie announced his purpose to found this school of graduate studies and original investigation he discussed the project in all its phases with the then head of Johns Hopkins. Dr. Gilman subsequently resigned his position with the Baltimore university. Today he was manifestly regarded by his associate trustees as the one who could speak most authoritatively on every feature of the new institution.

The First Meeting.

Late yesterday evening the time of the first meeting of the board in the office of Mr. Hay, Secretary of State, was fixed at 2:30 o'clock. By this provision those in charge of the meeting planned to suit the convenience of the trustees already in Washington. This latter list includes the President, the presiding officers of the Senate and House, Secretary S. P. Langley of the Smithsonian Institution, Prof. Alexander Agassiz of Boston, president of the National Academy of Sciences; Secretary Hay, former Senator Lindsay of Kentucky, Secretary Root, Senator Spooner of Wisconsin, Mr. Carroll D. Wright and Director Walcott.

TO BUILD A CANAL

PROPOSITION TO BE MADE TO THE GOVERNMENT.

Offer of Chicago Engineers, Who Will Bond Themselves in Any Amount.

To build an isthmian canal complete, either in Nicaragua or in Panama, is the proposition which will be made to the government by a number of Chicago contractors and engineers who built the drainage canal. Lyman E. Cooley of Chicago has been in Washington listening with interest to the canal debate. He is indifferent to the choice of route, believing both to be possible to American engineering and constructive genius. He and his friends will offer, as soon as it is decided to build the canal, to take over the job as one contract in whatever amount may be necessary, and will offer to give any required bond to fulfill their obligation. Mr. Cooley believes that the estimates of the canal commission are liberal, for the unit of prices adopted for moving earth and rock and building cut or a fill are far in excess of those which have prevailed for several years past, even under the most difficult conditions. Mr. Cooley believes that this country would be far more satisfied with the outcome of the Nicaragua enterprise than with Panama, and his reasons are from a purely commercial and industrial point of view. His theory is that by building across Nicaragua and Costa Rica the United States would practically annex those countries and that a tremendous industrial development would result along the line of the canal which would add greatly to the opportunities for American capital and give us a tropical base of operations which we would absolutely control.

Advantages of Nicaragua.

"There is room along the Nicaragua canal route for 25,000 Americans to live and do a profitable business," said Mr. Cooley to a representative of The Star. "The development of the coffee, rubber, banana and other tropical industries has long been predicted of that part of Central America. There are thousands of acres of land wonderfully adapted to coffee and the other products I have mentioned, and it would be but a short time after the canal was begun before American capital had absorbed the best of this area. The country is peaceful, it would be under the control of the United States and thoroughly policed thereby, the best transportation facilities in the world would be at the door; the country is comparatively healthy, owing to the constant circulation of the trade winds, and there are many industries which could be developed in the future which as yet have no beginning.

If Panama Route is Taken.

"If we build the canal across the Isthmus of Panama it would merely be a highway. There is no possibility there of building towns or developing the country as there is in Nicaragua. We would get nothing but the canal, whereas in Nicaragua we would get a tropical empire which we could control commercially as well as politically and which would furnish in time enough profitable business and freight to make a very respectable interest showing on the money invested in the waterway. There would be two or three good sized and thoroughly American towns, one on the Pacific, one on the Atlantic and one on Lake Nicaragua, probably near San Carlos at the head of the San Juan river.

The Question of Winds.

"The importance of the prevailing trade winds across Nicaragua has been estimated in considering this question of a canal. They make it possible for sailing vessels, a most important feature in our commerce, to come and go at any time from Greytown or Brito.

"Panama is south of the region of the trade winds. It is in the doldrums. But a few days ago an item was printed in the papers briefly noting that all transatlantic steamers had laid outside the harbor of Colon for a couple of days, unable to get in on account of a fierce norther which was blowing.

A Great Factor to Consider.

"Allowing, however, that the two routes are every way equal to each other from a physical, political and legal point of view, which is still a mooted question, I think that the importance of the possible development of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, under the influences of the canal, is a tremendous factor in favor of the selection of the latter route. By the building of the Panama canal we could get nothing but the waterway that, while of enormous value itself, would not equal the value of a waterway which opened up a new empire to American enterprise and trade."

RECEPTION TO SCHLEY.

Louisville Board of Trade Extends Greeting to Admiral.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., January 29.—With his arms still lame from yesterday's greetings, Admiral Schley today faced a throng at the board of trade public reception. A row of people stretched around the entire circumference of Exchange Hall in the board of trade building and extended down the stairway to the street. The admiral, much refreshed by a night's rest and a quiet morning, stood at one end of the hall by the side of Marion E. Taylor, president of the board. As the people passed before the admiral Mr. Taylor introduced them and to each the admiral gave a courteous word of greeting.

After the reception the admiral took luncheon at the Pendennis Club.

During the afternoon Mrs. Taylor tendered a reception to Mrs. Schley.

DENVER, Col., January 29.—The Colorado senate has adopted resolutions congratulating the senate of Maryland for its "patriotic action in ordering stricken from the public libraries an infamous volume that attempts to traduce the honest name of Rear Admiral W. S. Schley, one of the world's greatest naval heroes."

GEN. FUNSTON'S CONDITION.

Suffering From After Effects of Operation for Appendicitis.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., January 29.—Gen. Frederick Funston, who arrived here yesterday from San Francisco to undergo medical treatment, was in the hands of his physician for an hour today. Later the physician stated:

"Gen. Funston is suffering from a sinus in the appendix, as an after result of an operation performed in the Philippines for appendicitis. I have given the wound some treatment, and it may be that a formal operation will not be necessary."

"My leave of absence expires about March 10," said Gen. Funston today, "and unless I receive further orders I will sail for the Philippines about that date. I am in hopes my three years' service in the Philippines will result in an order permitting me to remain in the United States for a time, perhaps in command of one of the departments here."

Before returning to San Francisco, Gen. Funston states, he will likely visit Washington and New York.

Federal Election Bill.

Representative Gibson, republican, of Tennessee, introduced an election bill in the House today that has been indorsed by all the southern republicans. The bill in a measure substitutes the Bartholdt provision.

Treaties Favorably Considered.

The Senate committee on foreign relations today authorized favorable reports on the extradition treaties with Belgium and Denmark and the treaty regulating the descent of real property with Guatemala.

Steamship Arrivals.

At New York—Hohenzollern, from Genoa and Naples.

CANAL COMPROMISE

Contained in an Amendment Proposed by Senator Spooner.

PANAMA, IF TITLE IS CLEAR

Otherwise President to Go Ahead on Nicaragua Route.

FEELING OF SENATORS

Senator Spooner's amendment to the Hepburn canal bill caused a good deal of discussion today in Congress. This amendment, placed before the Senate late yesterday afternoon, strikes out everything after the enacting clause of the Hepburn bill and provides that the President shall acquire the Panama canal for $40,000,000, provided a satisfactory title to its property can be secured and that necessary treaty stipulations with Colombia can be had. If this cannot be done the President is authorized to proceed for the construction of the Nicaraguan canal. The amendment provides appropriations of $135,000,000 for the Panama and $180,000,000 for the Nicaraguan route, $10,000,000 to be made immediately available. The appropriation for the Panama route added to the purchase price of that property makes the two canals, so far as the estimates by the canal commission are concerned, practically the same. These are both estimates of the commission.

The main object in placing this amendment before the Senate for its consideration was in order that there should be no failure to pass a canal bill at an early day. If the Senate, in view of the report of the canal commission, declines to pass the Hepburn bill, that was almost unanimously passed by the House of Representatives, then it has Senator Spooner's amendment as an alternative proposition. This amendment was drawn in such a way that the President of the United States would not have to assume the responsibility for the choice of the location of the canal. It distinctly provides that if he is able to secure a satisfactory title and the necessary treaty stipulations the canal shall be built at Panama. Senator Morgan and many other advocates of the Nicaraguan canal route have declared that it will be impossible to acquire a title to the Panama canal property.

Question of Title.

They claim that the purchase of this property by the United States will not wipe out the interest of the stockholders, who by some estimates, are said to number half a million in France. Senator Morgan has taken the position that even if the French government itself by some declaration endeavor to give this country a clear title to the Panama canal property still the stockholders of the old Panama Canal Company could come forward and in the courts of this country successfully maintain their rights for compensation for their property independently of anything that this government should pay the new Panama canal company for its property.

If the Spooner amendment should become a law this entire question would be placed in the hands of the President of the United States. He would doubtless not only have the opinion of the Attorney General, but of international lawyers, both of this country and France. He would have as good an opinion as to the title that could be acquired in the Panama Canal Company as could be given by any title company in the case of a piece of real estate. If, after this thorough examination, he should be satisfied that a satisfactory title could not be acquired to the Panama property then, under the provision of the amendment, he could not accept it, and would have full authority to proceed for the construction of the Nicaragua canal. It is believed by many strong friends of the canal project that this proposition will receive very general favor, although there are still many senators who look with no favor on the Panama route under any circumstances, but believe that the Nicaraguan route is the safest for this country to adopt, in order to secure the early completion of a practical ship canal connecting the two oceans.

It is believed by many that the Spooner amendment will rid the present situation of that unpleasant feature of the discussion which has caused many people to declare that the advocacy of the Panama route is only another means for carrying out the desires of the transcontinental railroads in defeating any canal legislation. It is pointed out that a vote for the Spooner amendment unquestionably means a canal across the isthmus. It would be acceptable to senators who favor a canal at Panama because even they would not continue to advocate that route if a title could not be secured.

Individual Measure.

The Spooner amendment is understood to be solely a proposition by Senator Spooner for the consideration of the Senate. It is not what could be termed an administration measure, and it has not received the indorsement of the republican side of the Senate. It will come up for discussion when the bill is reached, and will then develop its strength or weakness. It is especially pointed out in this connection that it is a fact that if the Panama Canal Company cannot give a clear title to its property then the effect of the Spooner amendment will be to secure the passage of the Hepburn bill.

The Spooner amendment contains one provision that is not now in the Hepburn bill as it passed the House of Representatives. That is a provision in either case which in specific terms will give the United States a right to control or affect in any way any watercourse that might be involved in the construction of a canal either at Panama or Nicaragua. The question of water rights is one that often involves a great deal of difficulty, so that in order to effectually fix the power of the government in that respect this specific provision is inserted in the bill. The Spooner amendment, as it now stands, is simply in form to carry the main proposition which it involves, and it is possible that in its detailed provisions even Senator Spooner might change it. It would be subject to amendment by any one, and its essential feature is so well marked that any amendment that might be made to it would have no effect in securing the adoption of its main purposes.

There is no doubt that the report of the canal commission has had a very important effect on the Senate. Even some of the strong friends of the Nicaraguan canal argue that as laymen they do not feel inclined to dispite a report from this commission composed of experts of high standing in their profession. While their predilection has been for Nicaragua, and, in a certain sense, still is, yet the canal commission having put in a unanimous report favoring the purchase of the Panama canal property and the building of the canal over that route, they feel that they would be justified in following its suggestion. This feeling, which tends to grow stronger day by day, will have a very influential effect on the attitude of senators on the Spooner amendment.

THE OLEOMARGARINE BILL.

Majority and Minority Reports Submitted to the House.

The majority and minority reports on the oleomargarine question were submitted to the House today. The majority report was made by Mr. Henry of Connecticut and represents the views of the majority of the committee on agriculture. The minority was signed by Chairman Wadsworth of that committee and Representatives Connell, Scott, Williams and Allen. Both reports are very long, that of the majority supporting the bill, which was printed in full in The Star a day or so ago, when the committee took final action on the same.

Representative Sherman of New York today made a favorable report from the House committee on commerce on the bill to prevent the false branding or marking of food and dairy products. Violations of the provisions are punished by heavy penalties. The report refers to the extent of misbranding and the lack of law to deal with unscrupulous parties. Cheese and maple sirup are cited as articles much subject to misbranding.

KEEPING H STREET OPEN

COL. BIDDLE'S RECOMMENDATIONS TO HIS COLLEAGUES.

Commissioners Stated to Be Unalterably Opposed to Proposition in Pending Bill.

Colonel John Biddle, the Engineer Commissioner of the District, today announced that he would recommend to his associates of the District board that the Commissioners strongly urge upon Congress the necessity of keeping H street open in the consideration of the union depot and terminal plans of the Pennsylvania and Baltimore and Ohio railroads. The plans, as outlined in the bill now pending before Congress, contemplate the closing of the street named. It is understood that the Commissioners have always been unalterably opposed to any such arrangement, while the citizens have been strong in denouncing any proposed movement to obstruct H street to the point of impassability.

In their earlier communications with the engineers of the two railroad companies interested in the union depot scheme the Commissioners stated that they were opposed to the closing of the street.

During the past two weeks the engineer officers of the District and the engineers of the railroads have been in constant consultation regarding the plans, and a number of schemes are under consideration to remove the objectionable features. Col. Biddle is anxious that the District shall have as little expense as possible placed upon it through the elevation of the railroad tracks and the construction of the union station, and the plan that seems most suitable and economical will be the one finally adopted if the recommendations of the Commissioners are followed out in Congress.

Plan for Reducing Expense.

One plan for reducing the expense of the improvement is suggested in lowering the grade of the tracks and the station. As at present fixed the main track level of the union station will be about forty feet above the present grade of Massachusetts avenue at the proposed depot site.

To elevate the avenue, the intersecting streets and the abutting property to this level would cost a very great deal. It has been suggested that the track level might be brought down to twenty feet above the present grade of Massachusetts avenue. This would, of course, materially reduce the cost of filling at that point. On the other hand it would throw the joint tracks practically on a level with H street, and to keep that thoroughfare open it would be necessary to build a bridge some 800 feet long over the tracks. The approaches to the bridge would probably be quite steep and there would necessarily be a great deal of filling to be done on the street and the adjoining property, so it is pointed out that would be saved at the station site would have to be expended on H street and the parallel streets to the north that might be kept open.

The entire plan is in its first stages. The only thing that the Commissioners are certain of, at this time, it is stated, is that they will strongly recommend that H street be kept open.

NOT PUBLICLY OBSERVED.

Suggestion That McKinley's Birthday Anniversary Be Made Holiday.

Notwithstanding the fact that today is the anniversary of the late President McKinley's birth, there has been no public observance of the event in this city. Commissioner Ross, when seen by an Evening Star reporter, said: "I don't know why the day has not been publicly observed. I am in favor of making it a national holiday, and I don't think the time is far distant when it will be observed as such. No honor that we can do as citizens to pay our martyred President will demonstrate the affection and reverence we feel for his memory."

Compliment to Civil War Veterans.

The District Corps, Spanish War Veterans, has arranged to tender a complimentary campfire and smoker to Encampment 69, Union Veterans' Legion, at Spanish War Veterans' Hall, 612 E street northwest, next Saturday evening. This entertainment of the civil war veterans by the younger veterans of the war with Spain, will be in the nature of a return for the entertainment given the Spanish War Veterans by Encampment 69 just before the Chrismas holidays. Speakers of prominence have been invited to make addresses.

Building Permits Issued.

Building permits were issued today as follows:

Mrs. Ida A. Prescott, to build two-story and attic addition to frame house at 1518 Howard avenue northwest, Mt. Pleasant; cost, $2,000.

J. Wineberger, to build a one-story back building at 3548 Brightwood avenue northwest; cost, $215.

Philip Snowden, repairs to house on Maple street, Lincoln sub.; cost, $5.

Not Regarded as Public Alley.

H. Conquest Clark of 1752 N street northwest has written to the District Commissioners concerning a tenement house in the alley back of his residence. The District surveyor has reported that the alley is not a public one. What further action the Commissioners will take has not been decided.

Additional Policemen.

Upon the application of H. W. Fuller, manager of the Washington Traction and Electric Company, Major Sylvester has recommended to the District Commissioners that W. S. Ballinger, W. L. DeNeale and J. T. Moffett, division superintendents, and J. F. Hallman and Charles E. Kohler, inspectors of the traction company, be appointed additional privates of the police force for duty along the lines and upon the property of the company.

Washington Stock Exchange.

Sales—Regular call, 12 o'clock m.—Washington Traction Receipts—$5,000 at 70, $1,000 at 69, $1,000 at 69, $1,000 at 69, $1,000 at 69, $1,000 at 69. Franklin Fire Insurance Co., 20 at 48. Real Estate Title Ins. Co., 10 at 95. District of Columbia Title Ins., 5 at 13¼. Washington Gas, 2 at 71, 25 at 71, 10 at 71¼. Mergenthaler Linotype, 5 at 172½. After call—Franklin Fire Insurance Co., 20 at 48, 20 at 48, 20 at 48, 20 at 48. Capital Traction, 10 at 109, 10 at 109, 50 at 108⅞, 50 at 108⅞, 50 at 108⅞, 20 at 108⅞, 20 at 108⅞, 20 at 108⅞, 20 at 108⅞, 20 at 108⅞, 20 at 108⅞. Washington Traction Receipts, $5,000 at 68. Greene Copper, 100 at 28¼. Lanston Monotype, 20 at 10¼.

District of Columbia Bonds—3.65s, funding, 125½ bid.

Railroad Bonds—Capital Traction 4s, 107⅞ bid, 108¼ asked. Washington Traction and Electric Receipts, 69 bid, 70 asked. Metropolitan 5s, 119 bid, 121 asked. Metropolitan Cert. Indebt., A, 106 bid, 107¼ asked. Metropolitan Cert. Indebt., B, 106 bid, 107¼ asked. Columbia 6s, 119¼ bid, 121 asked. Columbia 2d mort. 5s, 105½ bid, 106½ asked.

Miscellaneous Bonds—Washington Gas Co. 6s, series A, 112½ bid. Washington Gas Co. 6s, series B, 113½ bid. U. S. Electric Light Deb. Imp. 6s, 105 bid. U. S. Electric Light Cert. Indebt. 6s, 104½ bid, 105½ asked. Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone 5s, 104¾ bid, 106 asked. American Security and Trust, 100 bid. Washington Market Co. 1st 6s, 108½ bid. Washington Market Co. Imp. 6s, 108½ bid. Washington Market Co. Exten. 6s, 108¼ bid. Masonic Hall Association 5s, 105 bid, 108 asked. American Graphophone Deb. 5s, 92 bid.

Safe Deposit and Trust Stocks—National Safe Deposit and Trust, *160 bid, 163 asked. Washington Loan and Trust, *190 bid, 193 asked. American Security and Trust, 217 bid, 230 asked. Washington Safe Deposit, 70 bid. Union Trust and Storage, 106½ bid, 107¾ asked. Washington Savings Bank, 100 bid.

Railroad Stocks—Capital Traction Co., 108⅞ bid, 109¼ asked.

National Bank Stocks—Bank of Washington, 375 bid, 430 asked. Metropolitan, 725 bid, 800 asked. Central, 245 bid. Farmers and Mechanics', 286 bid. Second, 168 bid. Citizens', 180 bid. Columbia, 187 bid, 190 asked. Capital, 150 bid, 170 asked. West End, 124¼ bid, 127 asked. Traders', 135 bid. Lincoln, 122 bid, 128 asked. Riggs, 660 bid, 750 asked.

Insurance Stocks—Firemen's, 25 bid. Franklin, 45 bid. Metropolitan, 75 bid, 85 asked. Corcoran, 62 bid. Potomac, 65 bid. Arlington, 26¾ bid, 28 asked. German American, 200 bid. National Union, 7½ bid, 8¼ asked. Columbia, 10¼ bid, 12 asked. Riggs, 7½ bid, 8 asked. People's, 6 bid, 7 asked. Commercial, 4½ bid, 5 asked. Colonial, 117 asked.

Title Insurance Stocks—Real Estate Title, 94 bid, 100 asked. Columbia Title, 4¾ bid, 5 asked. Washington Title, 2 bid, 3 asked. District Title, 12 bid, 20 asked.

Telephone and Graphophone Stocks—Chesapeake and Potomac, 65¾ bid, 71 asked. American Graphophone Com., 3⅝ bid, 4 asked. American Graphophone Pref., 8 bid, 8½ asked.

Gas Stocks—Washington Gas, *71 bid, 72¼ asked. Georgetown Gas, 78 bid.

Type Machine Stocks—Mergenthaler Linotype, 171¾ bid, 172 asked. Lanston Monotype, 10 bid, 10¾ asked.

Miscellaneous Stocks—Greene Con. Copper Co., 28¼ bid, 28¾ asked. Washington Market, 15¾ bid. Norfolk and Washington Steamboat, 175 bid, 200 asked. Columbia Sand Dredging, 75 asked.

*Ex. dividend.

FINANCE AND TRADE

Advance in Copper Was the Feature in Stocks Today.

REACTED SLIGHTLY ON REALIZING

Good Demand for Southern and Other Railways.

GENERAL MARKET REPORTS

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.

NEW YORK, January 29.—Opening prices this morning were fractionally higher, but later trading developed a profit-taking tendency in several specialties. London sold a few stocks, but purchases for the full day probably exceeded sales by some 10,000 shares. Interest at that center is confined largely to South African mining shares, and there is a strong conviction that the Boer war is nearing an end.

In the local market there was a spirited demand for Amalgamated Copper, which carried the price over 77, but selling by recent buyers forced the price back under 75. News from the copper trade is encouraging, and today's setback in the price of Amalgamated was looked upon as a matter of speculative policy. In much the same way Sugar was depressed by the interests instrumental in advancing the price during the last few days.

The street looked upon this profit taking as rather beneficial since it insured a good trading market in the active issues. The report of the United States Steel Corporation, to be given out after the close of today's business, will probably show a splendid degree of prosperity. The stocks of the company were strong during the morning on this prospect.

In the railroad list there was a good demand for Southern railroad securities, the preferred stock advancing to record prices. Earnings and the prospects for the full dividend on the preferred were given as reasons for the increased demand from the so-called Morgan connections. The pool in Southern Pacific gave that stock splendid support around 60, and the buying seemed to be encouraged by inside interests.

The meeting of the company about the middle of next week is awaited with interest, since important developments are not unlikely. Union Pacific held well for a time also, but around 102 the stock was plentiful and seemed to come from inside. While there is any doubt on the Northern Securities matter neither of the stocks last named should gain much headway.

There was a fair buying demand in St. Paul and the Vanderbilt shares were readily absorbed without any appearance of an urgent demand. Big Four is being bought by an interest which should be in position to judge of its value, and the Vanderbilt plan of concentration is said to include a most ambitious project for the future of this property.

Mr. Hill and Mr. Harriman are quoted as agreeing upon the splendid future prospects for Erie in connection with other properties in which these gentlemen are interested.

It invariably follows that the need of new money to bring out the full earning power of the road is also readily discerned. For this reason Erie stocks are not buoyant even in the pressure of an unlimited confidence that ultimately the property will be made to pay dividends upon the common stock. The buying of Reading, on the other hand, has all the earmarks of developments less remote. Final prices were generally under the best level for the day.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

New York Stock Market.

Furnished by W. B. Hibbs & Co., bankers and brokers, 1419 F st., members New York stock exchange, Washington stock exchange and Chicago board of trade.

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Amalgamated Copper	77⅛	77⅝	74⅝	74½
Am. Car & Foundry	29½	29½	29¼	29¼
Am. Car & Foundry, pfd	85¼	85¾	85⅝	85¾
American Ice	29¼	29½	29	29
American Smelting	49	49⅛	48⅛	48⅛
Amer Smelting, pfd	97¼	98	97¼	97¾
American Sugar	127¾	128¼	126	126
Anaconda	34⅛	34¼	32⅝	32⅝
Atchison, Top. & S. Fe	76½	76⅝	75⅝	75⅝
Atch., Top. & S. Fe, pfd	97	97⅛	96¾	96¾
Baltimore & Ohio	103¼	103½	102⅛	102⅜
Baltimore & Ohio, pfd	96¾	96¼	96¾	96¾
Brooklyn Rap. Transit	66⅝	66⅞	65	65
Canadian Pacific	114	114	113	113
Central of New Jersey	192	193	192	193
Chesapeake & Ohio	46½	46⅝	46⅝	46⅝
Chicago & Alton	34¼	34⅜	34¼	34⅜
Chicago & Alton, pfd	....	....	....	....
Chicago Great Western	23¼	23½	23	23
Chicago, Mil. & St. Paul	164	164½	163	163
Chicago, Rock I. & P	157½	159	156½	157⅜
Colorado Fuel and Iron	86½	86½	85½	85½
Consolidated Gas	217	217¼	217	217
Delaware and Hudson	173½	173½	171½	171½
Erie common	39⅞	39⅞	39⅛	39
Erie, 1st pfd	71¼	71½	70¾	70¾
Erie, 2d pfd	56¾	56⅞	54⅞	54⅞
General Electric	279½	280	278	278½
Illinois Central	140⅝	140⅝	140	140
Louisville & Nashville	103⅞	104½	103⅜	103⅜
Manhattan Elevated	136	136¼	134½	13[illegible]
Metropolitan St. Ry	171¾	172	170	170
Mo., K. and T., pfd	53	53	52⅜	52⅜
Missouri Pacific	102⅞	102⅞	101¾	101¾
National Lead	19⅛	19½	18¾	18¾
New York Central	162½	162½	161½	161½
N. Y., Ontario & West	33⅞	34	33⅝	33⅝
Norfolk and Western	56⅛	56¼	56	56
Pacific Mail Steamship	46½	46¼	46¼	46¼
Pennsylvania R R	149⅞	150	149	149⅜
People's Gas of Chicago	102	102	101¼	101½
Pressed Steel Car	40¾	40¾	40⅜	40¾
Reading	56⅝	56⅝	55⅝	55⅝
Reading, 1st pfd	82	82	81¾	81¾
Reading, 2d pfd	63¼	63⅜	62⅝	62⅝
Republic Steel & Iron	16¼	16⅝	16¼	16¼
Rubber Goods	18	18	17¾	17¾
St L and S Francisco	63	63⅜	62½	62½
St L and S. Fran, 2d pfd	75⅛	75½	74⅛	75⅛
St. Louis Southwestern	....	....	....	....
St Louis S. W., pfd	59½	59½	59	59
Southern Pacific	60⅝	60⅝	59⅞	59⅞
Southern Railway	33⅛	33⅝	32⅞	33
Southern Railway, pfd	94⅝	95¾	94⅝	94⅝
Tenn. Coal and Iron	63⅜	64¼	63	63
Texas Pacific	38½	38⅝	38⅛	38⅛
Union Pacific	101¾	102⅛	100⅞	101
Union Pacific, pfd	88⅞	88⅞	88¼	88¼
U S. Leather	11⅝	11⅝	11⅝	11⅝
U S Leather pfd	80¼	80¼	80¼	80¼
U S Rubber	15	15⅛	15	15
U S. Steel	43⅜	43½	42⅞	43
U S. Steel, pfd	93⅝	93¾	93	93
Wabash	22⅝	22¾	22⅛	22¼
Wabash, pfd	42½	42¾	42	42
Western Union	91⅜	91⅝	91⅝	91⅝
Wisconsin Central	20⅛	20⅛	20½	......
Amer. Locomotive	32	32⅜	31⅝	31⅝
Amer. Locomotive pfd	91¾	92	91¾	91¾

Baltimore Markets.

BALTIMORE, Md., January 29.—Flour dull, unchanged; receipts, 14,578 barrels; exports, 137 barrels. Wheat firmer; spot, the month and February, 84¼a84½; May, 84¼a84¾; steamer No. 2 red, 81¼a81½; receipts, 7,187 bushels; exports, none; southern by sample, 77½a85¼; southern on grade, 82¼a85½. Corn strong; mixed, spot and the month, 65a65⅛; February, 65⅛a65¼; May, 65⅝a65⅞; steamer mixed, 63⅝a64; receipts, 28,449 bushels; exports, none; southern white corn, 59⅜a66¼; southern yellow corn, 58¼a64¾. Oats steady; No. 2 white, 49a49½; No. 2 mixed, 48 nominal; receipts, 9,127 bushels; exports, none. Rye dull and lower; No. 2 nearby, 66a67; No. 2 western, 68; receipts, 1,071; exports, none. Hay quiet; No. 1 timothy, $15.50 asked. Grain freights dull; steam to Liverpool, per bushel, 1½d. February; Cork for orders, per quarter, none offering. Butter firm, unchanged; fancy imitation, 18a19; fancy creamery, 24a25; fancy ladle, 16a17; fancy roll, 17a18; good roll, 15a16; store packed, 13a15. Eggs firm, higher; fresh, 30. Cheese firm, unchanged; large, 11a11⅛; medium, 11¼a11⅜; small, 11½a11¾. Sugar firm and higher; fine and coarse granulated, 4.91½.

Grain, Provisions and Cotton Markets.

CHICAGO, January 29.—Grain:

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Wheat—May	78⅛	79	78⅛	78⅞-79
July	78⅛	78⅝	78	78⅝-¾
Corn—May	61⅝	62⅝-⅞	61⅝	62⅝-¾
July	61½	62⅝	61½	62¼-⅜
Oats—May	42⅝	44¼-⅜	42⅝	44¼
July	37⅝	38⅝	37⅝	38⅝

CHICAGO, January 29.—Provisions:

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Pork—May	15.77	15.95	15.72	15.95
July	15.87	16.05	15.82	16.05
Lard—May	9.37	9.47	9.37	9.45
July	9.47	9.55	9.45	9.55
Ribs—May	8.40	8.47	8.37	8.47
July	8.52	8.57	8.50	8.57

NEW YORK, January 29.—Cotton:

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
March	8.12	8.12	8.06	8.06
May	8.17	8.18	8.12	8.12
July	8.20	8.21	8.15	8.15

Government Bonds.

	Bid.	Asked.
2 per cents, registered	108⅝	108⅞
2 per cents, coupon	108⅝	108⅞
3 per cents, registered, 1908-1928	108	108¾
3 per cents, coupon, 1908-1928	108⅝	109¼
4 per cents, registered, 1907	111⅝	112¼
4 per cents, coupon, 1907	111⅝	112¼
4 per cents, registered, 1925	139	139¾
4 per cents, coupon, 1925	139	140¼
5 per cents, registered, 1904	107	107¾
5 per cents, coupon, 1904	108⅝	108¾