

INSIST ON CHANGES

Congressmen Would Amend Federal Incorporation Bill.

WANT FORFEITURE CLAUSE

Great Administration Influence May Be Needed to Effect Legislation.

MANY QUESTIONS INVOLVED

Ideas of President Taft and His Cabinet Embodied in Measure Prepared by Attorney General.

Now that the main features of the bill to be recommended by the President for a federal incorporation act have become known, there is a disposition on the part of many members of Congress to insist not only upon a full discussion of the measure, but upon amendments which will, in their judgment, be necessary to make it effective in dealing with great corporations. Indeed, it is believed that nothing short of tremendous administrative influence will enact it into law.

The need of a forfeiture clause by which a corporation persistently violating law can have its charter revoked is declared to be absolutely necessary if corporations are to be effectively controlled.

Compulsory Incorporation.

Many congressional lawyers advocate compulsory instead of voluntary federal incorporation. They cite as sound the general principle that if Congress has constitutional power to grant voluntary charters to corporations doing an interstate business, it has power to require corporations doing such business to take a federal incorporation, just as it has power to require them to comply with its laws regulating interstate commerce.

Among the questions that will come up for consideration and likely will provoke considerable discussion is that relating to the effect of federal incorporation upon the right of states to control, and to tax, the property of such enterprises. This is the question which the proposed law, it is said, has received comparatively little attention.

Rights of the States.

Before voting for the measure some members of Congress will wish to have the rights of the states clearly defined in respect to such matters as regulations for sanitation and factory inspection. They will also wish to reserve to the states, beyond any question, their right to tax such property, after the corporation has assumed its federal character. Some of them will wish, if possible, to separate the state from the interstate business, so that the state may still have power to control in respect to business conducted by the corporation solely within the state.

The Administration Bill.

Attorney General Wickersham has embodied the ideas of President Taft and his cabinet regarding a system of federal incorporation of business enterprises in a bill of twenty-one sections. The measure is expected to be laid before Congress next week.

The principal feature of the bill will be the creation of a form of holding company under a national charter which may control business of subordinate companies organized under state laws. Proper limitations will be provided against the combination of any such corporations in the business of discounting bills, receiving deposits and issuing notes. There will be a compulsory provision in the bill, it is said, that the corporation will not be required to take out a national charter if it sees fit to do business under state laws instead. All charters will be subject to the approval of the commissioner of corporations; the minimum amount of capital stock to be paid up will be \$100,000, not less than \$10,000 of which shall be available to begin business. In case a national corporation shall desire to acquire the stock of a corporation, it will be required to hold not less than a majority of the capital stock of such corporation.

Any corporation that has more than one kind of stock will be authorized to confer the right to choose the directors of any class to the exclusion of others.

Different Classes of Stock.

Corporations will be authorized to create two or more kinds of stock, the preferences and designations of which are to be clearly stated in the articles of association, but at no time shall the preferred stock exceed two-thirds of the capital stock paid for in cash or property. No preferred stock, by the terms of the bill, can be issued except as specified in the original articles of association. Two-thirds of each class of outstanding stock must be held by the corporation. Stock books are to be open to inspection by stockholders, judgment creditors and law officers.

Payment for Stock.

An important provision will be one requiring every subscriber to pay to the treasurer of a corporation 10 per cent of the amount of his subscription in cash, and the directors will be authorized to assess stock not exceeding the whole par value thereof, or if the stock is not of par value, then in the amount agreed to be paid for it. Failure to pay these assessments will subject the stock to sale at public auction.

A corporation will be permitted to purchase property necessary for its business and issue stock for the purchase of the approval of the bureau of corporations. Ample provision will be made for exhaustive reports to the government by every national corporation; special reports may be called for at any time, and finally severe penalties will be provided to insure the proper working of the act, but these penalties and fines will be imposed upon the officials. There will be provision for the forfeiture of the charter, it is said.

To Attend Shoup Ceremonies.

To attend the ceremonies in the Senate Monday, incident to the receiving by Congress of the statue of the late Senator Shoup from the state of Idaho, several members of the family of the man to be thus honored have arrived in Washington. They are at the New Willard. These include James H. Shoup, ex-marshall for Alaska, a brother, senator Shoup; Walter C. Shoup, state senator, and George E. Shoup, state senator. Mrs. Shoup is in the city, and Mrs. George E. Shoup, daughter-in-law.

OPPOSE KNOX PLAN

Japan and Russia Said to Have Reached Agreement.

NO OFFICIAL NEWS HERE

Governments Have Not Yet Replied to American Proposal.

GOOD REASON FOR DELAY

Officials Assured Matter is Receiving Careful Consideration in Other Capitals.

TOKIO, January 13.—There is reason to believe that Japan and Russia have reached a complete agreement on the subject of the neutralization of the Manchurian railways proposed by the United States.

The newspapers here generally admit the benevolent intentions of Secretary Knox, but there is no evidence of a lessening of the opposition to his plan on the grounds of sentiment and impracticability.

The State-Department, up to this time, has not received any direct or official expressions from the foreign governments interested regarding Secretary Knox's recent note suggesting the neutralization of the Manchurian railroads. The officials say they do not attach any great importance to the expression of some of the foreign newspapers unfavorable to the proposition. In some instances the newspapers which have expressed disapproval of the plan are known not to be in the confidence of their governments. This is believed to be true especially with respect to some of the newspapers of Japan.

Receiving Due Consideration.

It is known at the State Department that Mr. Knox's neutralization suggestion is receiving the most careful and studious consideration in the chancelleries of the interested powers, but, owing to the exceptional importance of the matter, it is not thought that replies can reasonably be expected for some time.

The department entertains no doubt whatever of the wisdom of taking the Manchurian railroads out of eastern politics as a means of minimizing the danger of war among the nations exercising authority over conflicting interests, and believes that no country would profit by such a conflict.

This government's position in favor of the "open door" principle of equal opportunities for all in the territorial acquisition of China, has been the qualified indorsement of all of the leading nations of the world having interests, present or prospective, in the far east. It is not doubted that the American principle will be accepted—at least in principle—by most of the leading powers.

Baron Uchida's Views.

Baron Uchida, the new Japanese ambassador, undoubtedly expressed the views of his government in an interview recently published in Tokio, in the course of which he is reported to have said: "America's stand with regard to the preservation of peace and the integrity of China has been and will be exactly identical with ours. We must always be friendly to the United States, and toward Japan and the orient as a whole have always been on the same peaceful route."

In another interview Baron Uchida said: "Japan must expand in East Asia, but the only advantage we have over the other competing nations is that of geography, and our expansion is not by means threatened or endangered by other competition, but their co-operation is more likely to be secured if American sympathy is a vital necessity to us, and the fortunate coincidence of principle with us in the matter of business integrity should be the happy link of the two nations."

No Action by China.

PEKING, January 13.—The story which originated in Shanghai yesterday and October 13, 1908, to the effect that the American press, to the effect that China had advised Russia and Japan that it would not agree to Secretary Knox's proposal for the neutralization of the railways of Manchuria, is declared here to be absolutely without basis in fact. China has not as yet made public her attitude.

BOY SAVES A TRAIN.

LOCOMOTIVE STOPPED TEN FEET FROM BURNING BRIDGE.

LA PORTE, Ind., January 13.—Carl Washer, fifteen years old, yesterday stopped a Baltimore and Ohio passenger train within ten feet of a burning bridge west of Wellsboro, Ind., by signaling the engineer with a red handkerchief.

When the boy discovered that the bridge was burning he hastened down the tracks, remembering that a train was due in a few minutes. As the train came to a stop he ran across the bridge and the man at the throttle stopped the train. Passengers in the four crowded coaches made up a purse of \$100 for Washer.

SURGEON MOORE DIES.

NAVAL OFFICER WAS RETIRED IN THE SUMMER OF 1893.

NAPLES, January 13.—A. M. Moore, surgeon in the United States Navy, retired, died here today of pneumonia. He was born in Tennessee in 1845 and attained the relative rank of lieutenant commander in 1882. At the time of his retirement, in the summer of 1883, he was surgeon of the navy yard at Mare Island, Cal.

The Navy Department has been advised of the death of Surgeon Moore, which occurred at Naples, Italy, this morning. Surgeon Moore entered the naval service of the United States as an assistant surgeon April 19, 1867, and was promoted to surgeon April 1, 1881, and was transferred to the retired list August 14, 1883. During the Spanish-American war he was commanding the hospital ship, the USS Albatross, at Manila, and was promoted to the rank of lieutenant commander, and was transferred to the retired list August 14, 1883. He was born in Tennessee in 1845 and attained the relative rank of lieutenant commander in 1882. At the time of his retirement, in the summer of 1883, he was surgeon of the navy yard at Mare Island, Cal.

CASTLE GETS DIVORCE.

HUSBAND OF WOMAN WHO SHOT AT TORNEY WILLIAM D. CRAIG.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 13.—A morning paper here says that Nevils H. Castle, former prominent San Francisco attorney, received a decree of divorce Tuesday at Nome, Alaska, from Mary Scott Castle, who shot William D. Craig, a New York attorney, in an elevator of the Waldorf-Astoria last August. Castle is now assistant United States district judge at Nome. Mrs. Castle is now reported to be in Canada.



KIMBALL ON BENCH

Continues as Judge, Although His Term Has Expired.

DECISIONS MAY BE VOID

Holds Over Under Law Creating Police Court—Supreme Court Can Designate Substitute Under Another Section.

The fact that Judge Kimball's term as Judge of the Police Court of the District has expired and that he still continues to perform the duties of the judge of that court upon the bench may, it is contended by the places of the local lawyers, raise a question as to the legality of his judgments.

Judge Kimball took the oath of office January 13, six years ago. His term, therefore, expired at midnight last night. This morning he was on the bench in the United States branch of the court and tried cases as usual.

Conflicting Provisions of Law.

Judge Kimball decided to continue as judge of the Police Court under the provision of the law which creates the Police Court for the District. This law, which is section 42 of the District code, provides:

"There shall continue to be a Police Court in the District as at present constituted, consisting of two judges, appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate for the term of six years, or until their successors are appointed."

Section 51 of the code, however, makes provision for the selection of successors of the judges of the Police Court when their terms expire before appointments are made by the President. Section 51 provides that:

"In cases of sickness, absence, disability, expiration of term of service or death of either of the judges, any one of the justices of the Supreme Court of the District may designate one of the justices of the peace now judges of the Municipal Court to discharge the duties of the judge until such disability be removed or the vacancy filled."

Judgments May Be Void.

It is argued that section 51 is more specific in regard to filling the place of the judge whose term expires than the section creating the court, and, therefore, may be construed, as is usually the case when two sections of a law conflict, to be the law. It is contended that if the construction is correct Judge Kimball has no legal right to continue to try cases in the Police Court, and that all the decisions he hands down from now until he is appointed to succeed himself, or until his successor is appointed, are null and void.

It was rumored this morning that members of the District bar would raise this question in the Police Court. There was no action of the kind today, it may happen, however, tomorrow or any day that a member of the bar desires to raise the question.

The question can be raised squarely, it is said, by obtaining a writ of habeas corpus in the case of any prisoner whom Judge Kimball sends to jail or against whom he lodges a fine, that case the Supreme Court of the District will be called upon to construe the law.

Whether a nomination be sent to the Senate by the President today or within the next day or two makes no difference in the situation. It might be a week or several weeks before the nominee could be confirmed and could qualify for office.

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INSURGENTS TO MEET.

JANUARY 20 SELECTED AS DATE FOR NEBRASKA STATE RALLY.

LINCOLN, Neb., January 13.—The Nebraska republican insurgents have selected January 20 as the date for the state rally, and the meeting will be held at the Oliver Theater.

Resolutions will be passed praising the record of the Nebraska "insurgents" in Congress. A candidate will also be named to oppose Senator E. J. Burkett for re-election.

MOORE WORKING WITH REID.

Judge Moore said today that reports of a disagreement between himself and Daniel G. Reid are unfounded, and that he and Mr. Reid are working together in perfect harmony.

According to unverified reports in Wall Street today Mr. Jackson's sudden resignation from the presidency of the Rock Island company was due to differences with Mr. Reid over personal business arrangements. These relations are reported to have some connection with stock exchange transactions.

NEW R. I. PRESIDENT

Robert Walker Supersedes R. A. Jackson, Resigned.

OTHER CHANGES PENDING

Follows Suspension of S. B. Chapin and E. D. Countiss, Brokers.

BLAMED FOR RECENT FLURRY

"Should Have Known" Transaction Was Not "Legitimate" and "Would Cause Panic."

NEW YORK, January 13.—Important changes are pending in the Rock Island Company and its affiliated properties, other than the announced elevation today of Robert Walker, former assistant general counsel of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railway, to the presidency of the Rock Island company to succeed Richard A. Jackson, resigned.

The suspensions of S. B. Chapin and E. D. Countiss were announced on the stock exchange by President Thomas today.

Reasons for Suspension.

The governors of the stock exchange issued a statement which, after reciting that the offending firm had received an order for the purchase of 40,000 shares of Rock Island stock and gave it out to other brokers to execute, said:

"That said firm and members thereof should have known that execution of an order in such a manner could serve no purpose or legitimate purpose, that it would cause panic, confusion and loss, and deprive the quotations of transactions from the exchange of their value as standards of the real market value of securities."

"That the execution of said order in said manner by said firm constituted a misuse by them of facilities of the exchange and was an act detrimental to the interests and welfare of the exchange."

New President's Duties.

Robert Walker, former counsel of the Rock Island company, the new president, will assume all Mr. Jackson's duties, including the chairmanship of the executive committee, the general counselship of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railway, and a member of the finance committee.

Mr. Walker will succeed Daniel G. Reid as chairman of the executive committee of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway Company. Mr. Reid, it was announced, will remain a director of the company.

The elevation of Mr. Walker to the head of the Rock Island company, coincident with the suspension of two members of the stock exchange for their participation in that 40,000-share market order that sent Rock Island up 31 points in a jiffy, is taken to mean today that William H. Moore in the future will be in more active direction of Rock Island's affairs.

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PLEAD FOR SCHOOLS

Large Delegation Calls on Senate Committee.

MORE MONEY ASKED FOR

Members Urged to Restore Items Cut From the Bill by the House.

Members of the board of education, of the schools and the District Commissioners joined this morning in voicing requests before the Senate subcommittee on District appropriations for larger financial provision for the local public schools than was allowed by the House.

At the hearing before the Senate subcommittee Senator Gallinger, chairman, this morning there appeared President James F. Oyster, Vice President V. C. Cox, W. V. Tunnell and Mrs. Ellen Spencer Mussey of the board of education; Supt. A. T. Stuart and Asst. Supt. Percy M. Hughes, Secretary Harry O. Hine, Commissioners Macfarland, West and Judson; Miss Ida Daly, representing the Teachers' Association, and D. E. Garges, chief clerk of the engineer department of the District government.

The needs of the schools, in a financial way, were thoroughly discussed during the two-hour session. Members of the subcommittee instructed the school officials to estimate closely and yet present the needs in full. The subcommittee was specially urged to include in the District bill all the items included by the Commissioners in their estimates.

Out to \$3,000,000.

The estimates of the board of education, submitted to the District heads, amounted to about \$4,700,000. When the Commissioners considered these in the light of the general needs of all the departments of the local government, and in view of the law keeping the estimates within the revenues, they cut them to \$3,000,000, and the District appropriation bill passed the House these figures were cut still more, and the items cut out by the House or the reductions made by the House were discussed today with a view to having them inserted in the Senate bill.

Special stress was laid by the school officials upon the need for enlarged appropriations for night school work. It was pointed out that a night manual training school is being maintained at the McKenney building, with an attendance of about 500 pupils, by the volunteer service of teachers in the day school. A larger appropriation, it was explained, is needed to provide for the continuance of the school. During the discussion the excellent work done in the local night schools was urged as justifying an enlargement of the work.

The school officials desire that the Senate committee will raise the appropriation for salaries in night schools from \$17,000 to \$28,000, and the appropriation for the contingent expenses of the night schools from \$2,500 to \$3,700.

Need of New Buildings.

The need of new buildings, as estimated for the Commissioners, was also brought up during the hearing. A new building south of Pennsylvania avenue, near Rock creek, and another at Park View, west of the Soldiers' Home grounds, were especially noted as being among the urgent requirements.

Miss Ida Daly urged the subcommittee to put a clause in the District bill which will remove the alleged discrimination in a former law against veteran teachers in the local schools in favor of teachers brought here from outside institutions. It is claimed by the teachers that the law, as it stands now, provides longevity pay for service in outside schools, but none for service in local schools, prior to the passage of the new school act several years ago.

Preacher Dies Aged 101.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., January 13.—Rev. Daniel Glass, aged over 101 years, died at his home near Johnson City, Tenn. He was born in Yancy county, North Carolina, July 23, 1808. He was a minister of the Baptist faith.

PAID FOR PICTURES

Statesmen Testify in Case Against Waterbury.

NEVER RECEIVED RETURNS

Accused Told Them He Represented Associated Press.

SAID IT WAS NEW SCHEME

Senator Burrows and Representatives Hull and Bartholdt Witnesses in Criminal Court No. 1.

Senator Burrows of Michigan, Representative Bartholdt of Missouri, Representative Hull of Iowa and Ormsby McHarg, former assistant secretary of commerce and labor and former assistant attorney general, testified as witnesses today in Criminal Court No. 1 at the trial of Jules M. Waterbury, indicted for false pretenses. From each of these men the indictment charged that Waterbury secured money on the representation that he was connected with the Associated Press, which was sending out pictures and biographical sketches of prominent men.

The defense won a point when Senator Burrows was unable to identify the prisoner as the man who received a check for \$40 from him. The defense, as foreshadowed, is that Waterbury did not represent himself as being connected with or coming from the Associated Press, but as representing a press bureau or association which was undertaking to furnish to subscribing newspapers portraits and biographical matter about public men, very much after the manner in which the Associated Press furnishes news to its subscribers.

Mr. Hull's Testimony.

Representative John A. T. Hull of Iowa was the first witness for the government. He said he was called on the telephone November 27, 1908, and told the Associated Press wanted to talk with him, and asked if he would receive a representative if he called. Waterbury called in response and explained the scheme for sending out the illustrated biographies. Hull said he declined at first to have his biography distributed, saying he did little in the way of advertising.

Waterbury, the witness said, showed the picture of Secretary Root and others and explained that the Associated Press now had a new method of taking illustrations and making them into a matrix and made the distribution of illustrations easy. He said Waterbury explained that the Associated Press would distribute the pictures to newspapers and other offices, to be used when a prominent man died.

Mr. Hull said Waterbury promised to deliver him copies of his photograph for \$50. The witness agreed to purchase and pay for them on delivery. Waterbury, he declared, expected to pay the chief clerk of the engineer department, remarking, "You can see how the police regard me." Considering this badge an assurance that Waterbury was always worked with the organization and is personally fond of Speaker Cannon, but he is not an absolutely disinterested public opinion.

Failed to Identify Accused.

Senator Burrows was next offered as a witness, but he could not identify the defendant, and declared that Waterbury had represented that he was with the National Press Association of New York. He said he gave the man who called a check for \$40.

Defendant's counsel, Henry E. Davis, had no questions to ask, but requested the court to strike the name of the senator. Mr. Barker objected, and Justice Gould reserved his ruling.

Representative Bartholdt of Missouri was next called. He identified Waterbury, whom he said he had seen twice. Mr. Bartholdt said Waterbury visited him and told him the Associated Press had no plate of his photograph and desired one.

Mr. Bartholdt said that at that time he was receiving requests for photographs from navy yards and he accepted Waterbury's proposition, giving him a check for \$62. Before drawing the check the witness testified he told Waterbury the Associated Press, so far as he knew, had never been in the "picture business." Mr. Bartholdt stated that the defendant then assured him that it was a new feature that had been adopted.

On cross-examination Mr. Bartholdt stated that he connected the name of the Associated Press with the "mental connection" made by him from statements of the defendant.

Never Received Plates.

Senator Burrows, being recalled, testified that he never received the plates for which he paid Waterbury. Mr. Davis then showed the senator a receipt of the express company as to the delivery of the plates to the home of the witness. The senator stated that at the time the plates are shown by receipt to have been delivered he was in Denver, Col.

Ormsby McHarg, former assistant attorney general, testified that he was approached by the defendant and asked for a steel engraving of himself, that the Associated Press desired a picture of witnesses. Mr. McHarg testified that he asked the defendant that he did not see why the Associated Press should want his picture, and that he had been by witness and assured him that the board of directors of the Associated Press had decided to get an engraving of him. On this assurance, Mr. McHarg testified, he gave Waterbury \$96 to cover the cost of having an engraving made for the Associated Press. Mr. McHarg later, becoming dubious of the transaction, withdrew his subscription and had his check returned.

To Allow Acceptance of Gifts.

A bill of local interest, introduced in the Senate today, was offered by Senator Lodge. If passed, it will allow Rear Admiral C. H. Davis, U. S. N., to accept a silver cup and salver, and punch bowl and cups, tendered him by the British and Russian ambassadors, respectively, in the name of their governments. The gifts are now in the possession of the State Department.

STATEHOOD BILL READY.

ORDERED REPORTED BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TERRITORIES.

The New Mexico and Arizona statehood bill was completed today by the House committee on territories and was ordered reported.

GIVING OUT OFFICES

President Turns His Attention to Patronage Matters.

KENTUCKIANS ARE NAMED

Two Appointments Indorsed by the Bradley Organization.

CRUMPACKER SEES TROUBLE

Indianian Known to View the Republican Outlook in the Middle States With Alarm.

President Taft, having completed his most important messages to Congress, has turned his attention to disposing of a number of patronage matters in various states. These have been delayed while the President struggled with the bigger problems of legislation. In the next few weeks the President will grind out for the Senate several hundred nominations in nearly all states except those where the insurgents have caused a hold-up.

The President today settled part of the Kentucky patronage fight and had a long conference with Walter S. Dickey, republican state chairman of Missouri, as to appointments that are in dispute there.

In the Kentucky nominations the President stands by the organization as represented by Senator Bradley and Representatives Langley and Bennett. The faction represented by Representative Edwards has been left in the cold. The nominations today were Ludlow F. Petty to be collector of internal revenue for the fifth district, and Asbury P. Patrick for United States marshal of the eastern district. Mr. Petty is the private secretary of Senator Bradley and Mr. Patrick is the choice of Representative Langley. Another nomination agreed upon is that of T. A. Field, to be collector of internal revenue at Lexington. He also is an adherent of the Bradley faction.

Among the other nominations was that of William P. Warner to be United States marshal of Nebraska, a reappointment satisfactory to Senators Brown and Burkett, who are classed with the radical progressives back home and are administration men in Washington.

Bad Situation in Indiana.

Representative Crumpacker of Indiana, the only republican returned to the House from that state a year ago last November, talked over conditions there with Mr. Taft today. Although Mr. Crumpacker, always careful of his words, would not discuss his visit, it is known that he views the republican outlook with a good deal of alarm. The party there is split on the Cannon-Aldrich proposition. The republican demand is expressed that every republican nominee must pledge himself for or against Cannon. Crumpacker has always worked with the organization and is personally fond of Speaker Cannon, but he is not an absolutely disinterested public opinion.

Senator Aldrich is to try to help stem the western tide by speaking on the currency question at the annual meeting of the Indianapolis January 20. Ex-Representative Overstreet of Indianapolis is here arranging the visit. Mr. Aldrich will also speak at the annual meeting of the South Dakota state at the guests of President Taft at luncheon tomorrow to discuss the proposition pending to harmonize the currency and the state laws. They were at the White House a few minutes today.

To Attend Local Functions.

President Taft will today, for President Taft to dedicate the Carnegie library at the institution March 10. The President laid the corner stone of the library some time ago. It is hoped to have Andrew Carnegie present at the dedication.

Dr. W. C. Borden of George Washington University invited the President to attend the charity ball of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Carnegie library at the New Willard, February. The President will go if he can find the time.

President Taft will also attend the annual meeting of the League of Navy Yards and Arsenals, the name of which has been changed to the National League of Government and Congress called on President Taft today to discuss conditions at the Schuykill arsenal. They told the President that the rights of employees there are absolutely disregarded, and that they are not treated as employees in navy yards and arsenals elsewhere. The War Department, which has the matter before it, has asked the Attorney General for an opinion. The President gave President Cannon a letter to Attorney General Wickersham, so that the side of the employees may be made known to the officials.

Representatives Weeks and Currier today discussed conversation at a resort reserve matters with the President, especially with reference to the proposed White Mountain and Appalachian forest reserves. Mr. Weeks has introduced a bill dealing with the forest question.

A Kick From Lumbermen.

On the complaint of the National Lumbermen's Association as to the long-drawn-out delay of the bureau of corporations upon the lumber business, President Taft has directed Secretary Nagel and Herbert Knox Smith, head of the bureau, to present the report at the earliest possible moment. Three years ago the Senate passed a resolution directing a report upon whether there was a "conspiracy, trust, agreement or contract in restraint of lawful trade" in the lumber business. Several hundred men have been at work getting the facts for years, and the cobwebs have covered the thing so deeply the lumber people want the agency over.

Mr. Smith told the President that the facts wanted are in the final stage of completion. Lumbermen have expressed the belief that this one investigation by the bureau of corporations has cost the government a quarter of a million dollars, and that it will be of no practical benefit to the country when completed.

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