lators and pirates who are seeking to humbug them.

Ready to Prove Charges.

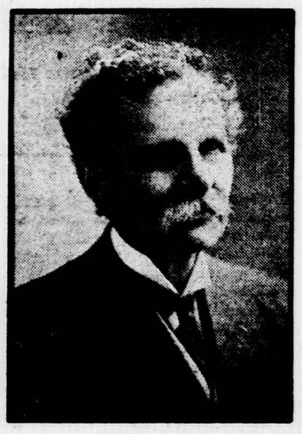
"The statement I made before the House committee on expenditures in the Agricultural Department is absolutely true. I am prepared to prove it. I do not make statements which I cannot prove.

"I have practised law too long not to know that it is dangerous to make a statement that you cannot absolutely establish. I reiterate that I will prove that the Secretary of Agriculture told me in the presence of reputable witnesses that he suppressed the circular letter which gave the real facts about the everglades land at the instance of persons engaged in selling those lands.

"The committee has taken the matter in charge. Let the department officials go before that committee and under oath submit their defense. I am prepared to prove every count in the indictment that I made, and I will prove it beyond every shadow of reasonable doubt.

"I am prepared to prove, not only by my own statement, but by the sworn testimony of as good men as live within this republic, that the Secretary of Agriculture told me that he suppressed the warning circular referred to at the instance of persons engaged in selling the everglades land. I want to know and the country ought to know who those persons were who could exercise this great influence over a great department of this government.

"I hesitated to lay my charges before the committee because I looked upon the venerable Secretary more in a sense of pity that I did of blame. The Department of Agriculture sent certain engineers down to investigate the everglades land. Those engineers made a report. The department was being flooded with inquiries from all over this country relative to that project. They could not answer these inquiries singly, so it was



C. G. ELLIOTT.

thought necessary to get out a circular giving the necessary information.

"That circular letter was prepared, and when a few of them were distributed the agents of these land sharks immediately appeared at the department. They threatened the chief drainage engineer of that department if he did not recall that circular letter. He stood pat. He declined to do it.

"They then told him that they would go higher, and that they would make him do it. In a few days the chief engineer received a letter from the Secretary telling him he must not distribute any more of these circulars, and that he must not answer any questions relative to the Florida Everglades."

Mr. Clark wound up his remarks by declaring he intended to press his charges against the department to the limit before the committee when the investigation is begun Saturday.

H. E. Davis in Case.

Henry E. Davis, former United States attorney for the District of Columbia, will represent the interests of Elliott, Morehouse and Singleton before the committee during the investigation. Mr. Davis was counsel for Dr. Harvey W. Wiley when he was up on charges last summer.

There were several new developments in the everglades controversy yesterday. The Department issued a statement denouncing as "prejudiced, one-sided and untrue" the statement given out by Representative Clark of Florida, declaring Secretary Wilson suppressed a warning circular and an engineer's report on the everglades because the circular and report did not please the land speculators operating in the everglades.

The department's statement also says that Elliott and Morehouse were dismissed "because they had certified and presented false accounts, knowing them to be false, on which the government paid out money."

Statement of Department.

The department's statement follows:

"In a prejudiced, one-sided statement given out by Representative Clark of Florida on the everglades controversy it is sought to show that the reason the Secretary of Agriculture suppressed a circular of information which had been prepared by the office of drainage investigations and declined to print a complete report of the drainage work which the department had done in the everglades was because the Secretary did not regard the circular and reports as sufficiently favorable to please the land promoters who were operating in the glades. In Mr. Clark's statement it is further sought to show that the recent dismissal of Messrs. Elliott and Morehouse, drainage engineers, was for failure to show sufficient favors to the land promoters.

"Both of these statements are untrue and Mr. Clark's effort to besmirch the Secretary of Agriculture will fail. The Secretary refused to print the report of the work done in the glades because not only were his engineers, Mr. Wright and Mr. Elliott, in disagreement as to the correct interpretation of the work done by the department in the glades, but Mr. Elliott, without further investigation, radically changed his position, and the experts of the bureau of plant industry, familiar with Florida conditions, disagreed with both Mr. Wright and Mr. Elliott.

Reason for Dismissals.

"Elliott and Morehouse were dismissed by the Secretary of Agriculture because they had certified and presented false accounts, knowing them to be false, on which the government had paid out moneys. Not only did they know the accounts were false, but they procured the persons to make the false accounts, telling these persons they would receive money for their trouble. They admit

A. D. MOREHOUSE.

they did this; they concealed their unlawful acts from their chief, Dr. A. C. True, and when Dr. True discovered the facts he recommended their dismissal. The Secretary dismissed them, and as there was a violation of law involved, sent all of the facts and papers in his possession to the Attorney General for certification to the district attorney for prosecution and for such other action as the Attorney General might deem proper.

"The department courts the fullest investigation of this matter, and has irrefutable documentary evidence ready to present to the investigating committee at a moment's notice, which clearly shows that the action of the Secretary has been proper and consistent throughout. If the time has come when government employes may procure men to prepare false accounts to secure moneys from the government without fear of dismissal or prosecution for their acts, that fact is unknown in the Department of Agriculture."

Many Conferences Held.

There were many conferences yesterday among the democratic members of the committee on expenditures, and Senators Fletcher and Bryan of Florida were closeted with Chairman Moss for a couple of hours.

In connection with the senators' visit it became known that a Senate document printed last summer, which was supposed to embrace all public papers relating to the Florida everglades, did not, in fact, contain the report made by J. O. Wright when he was a department employe, but instead contained a second revision of the report made by Wright himself after he had left the employ of the government and had become chief engineer of the drainage project under the state of Florida.

Mr. Wright says in a letter to Secretary Wilson dated November 25, 1911, that Senator Fletcher helped him to revise the report.

"Senator Fletcher," says Wright in his letter to the Secretary, "got permission from the last session of Congress to publish this report as part of a Senate document. A copy was procured from your department and sent to the government printing office. When the galley proof was struck off Elliott received a copy and proceeded to rewrite the same.

Says Report Was Changed.

"When it was returned to the committee it no longer appeared to be my report, but Elliott's report. My name had been stricken out and Elliott's inserted in many pages. Page after page had been stricken out and many typewritten pages supplied to take their places. Matter had been injected that was not in the original report and conclusions drawn that were not warranted by facts.

"Senator Fletcher was amazed and requested me to come to Jacksonville and go over the matter with him. I did this, and the report was corrected to conform to the manuscript secured from your department. I have recently received a page proof of this document."

In the Senate document it was Mr. Wright's revised and approved report—that is, the report revised and approved by him after he had left the department and was connected with the drainage project—that was printed.

Representatives Clark and Bathrick, who brought the controversy to a head, insisted even more emphatically than before that the inquiry would demonstrate that the Department of Agriculture had assisted in the exploitation of the everglades lands.

Order Passed by Committee for a Land Frauds Inquiry

A formal order for an investigation of the drainage division of the Department of Agriculture, the charges that engineers in the department who were discharged by Secretary Wilson last Saturday had been made victims of Florida Everglade land syndicate promoters, and that department reports on the Everglade conditions had been suppressed, was passed by the House committee on expenditures in that governmental department today.

Representative Moss, chairman of the committee, immediately telegraphed to J. O. Wright, drainage engineer of the state of Florida, formerly connected with the Agricultural Department, to appear as a witness before the committee next Tuesday. George P. McCabe, solicitor of the Department of Agriculture, will be heard Saturday.

Is Willing to Appear.

"Senator Fletcher of Florida assured me," said Chairman Moss, "that Mr. Wright would come in response to a telegraphic request, and that it would not be necessary to send a deputy to serve a subpoena. I have called upon the Department of Agriculture for a complete statement of the exact cost of the drainage work in the Florida Everglades, together with a list of all employes engaged in the work.

"In this statement will be included the cost of getting up the reports which it is alleged were suppressed. It will be a general financial statement of the undertaking, and I expect that it will be ready for the committee Saturday."

The committee, Mr. Moss stated, decided not only to investigate the Everglade lands and the alleged relations of the Florida land syndicates to the controversy, but also to conduct a thorough inquiry into the whole drainage division of the Department of Agriculture.

"We will also thoroughly sift the charges of misapplication of funds, upon which was based the dismissal of Chief Engineer C. G. Elliott and his assistant, A. D. Morehouse, and the suspension of F. E. Singleton, accountant of the division," continued Mr. Moss. "This inquiry will force a postponement of inquiry into the forestry division of the department, which the committee had planned to begin next week."

State Has an Interest.

Senators Fletcher and Bryan of Florida called on Mr. Moss again today and stated that they wished to watch the investigation closely in the interest of the state of Florida.

"The senators from Florida," said Mr. Moss, "have told me that the air of mystery that has overshadowed the Everglade developments had already cost the state many millions of dollars.

"Each senator explained that they were not interested in any way in the land syndicates doing business in the state, but that they were in the lands still owned by the state. These lands, they stated, had greatly risen in value. They declared that whereas they originally were sold by the state at $2 an acre, that the point had been reached now where they could bring as high as $15 an acre. The mass of mystery and charges growing out of the drainage problem and the sale of the land by syndicates they insisted had directly affected the financial interests of the state."

BRINGING MAINE'S MAST.

Naval Collier Leonidas Is on the Way Here.

The naval collier Leonidas is on the way up the Potomac river for the purpose of unloading at the local navy yard the main mast of the battleship Maine, which is to be erected over the graves of the victims of the Maine in Arlington cemetery. The Leonidas left Annapolis about noon yesterday for this city and, under ordinary conditions, should have reached here this morning. Her progress is being impeded, however, by the ice in the bay and river, and she is not likely to get to the navy yard before this evening at the earliest.

She carries a large assortment of relics of the wrecked battleship Maine, to be distributed among municipalities, patriotic societies and relatives of the victims of the disaster, according to the findings of a joint army and navy board appointed to pass on the many claims already filed. All these relics, with the exception of the mainmast, are to be discharged at the navy yard at Philadelphia, where the vessel will go after delivering the mast at the local navy yard.

The Leonidas went to Annapolis before coming here, for the purpose of discharging about fifty tons of coal that was scooped out of the Maine's boilers at Havana. That coal has been under water for nearly fourteen years, and is to be subjected to tests at the Annapolis experiment station to determine how it has been affected as fuel by its long submersion.

Baron de Rio Branco Dying.

RIO JANEIRO, February 8.—Baron de Rio Branco, the minister of foreign affairs, who was stricken suddenly ill on the evening of February 5 with uremia, is still alive, but the physicians in attendance say that his death is only a question of hours.

ON M'GOWAN'S CASE

Lorimer Committee Listens to Loose Ends of Testimony.

CANADIAN'S FATHER HEARD

Wiehe Tells of His Dealings With Young McGowan.

INQUIRY NEARLY FINISHED

Attorney Hanecy Announces He Has No More Witnesses But Expert Stenographers.

With every plan laid to close quickly the investigation into the election of Senator Lorimer, the Senate Lorimer committee today listened to loose ends of the testimony touching the statements that Charles McGowan, the young Canadian, had admitted receiving money for "perjuring" himself last July before the committee.

McGowan was subjected to cross-examination by Attorney John J. Healy for the committee.

The attorney asked McGowan to explain what he meant by the letters "O.K." on a card he left for Detective Bailey the day he settled with C. F. Wiehe. The witness had already said Bailey knew he was trying to get a settlement with Wiehe. The card read: 'Am leaving at 3 o-k for Elora."

"'O-k' meant o'clock," replied the witness.

"Oh, you spelled phonetically," suggested Attorney Healy.

Chairman Dillingham asked Attorney Healy if he contended the card could be susceptible of more than one meaning. The attorney said he regarded it as possible.

"Although in the middle of a sentence?" inquired the chairman.

Even in that location Attorney Healy said it might mean "correct."

The chairman announced the card would be photographed for the record.

Dr. J. P. Jupp of Toronto was called to testify that McGowan called him up after 10 p.m. January 6. His testimony was intended to show McGowan was not in the room with the detectives the hour they swore he admitted having received money for "perjuring" himself.

McGowan's Father Heard.

John McGowan, father of Charles McGowan of Elora, Canada, was the next witness. He told of Detective William J. Burns asking him to come to Toronto to talk about his son's testimony. After promising to go, McGowan said he decided it was not worth while to chase the fellow around when a son, John, could not find Burns at the Toronto Hotel.

McGowan said the next day when Burns told him over the telephone his son had perjured himself he called Burns a liar.

"Burns said he wondered that a man of my position would back my son up in such a thing," said the witness, "and when I told him I didn't know he had done anything wrong he called me a liar."

McGowan was formerly a member of the Canadian parliament.

Senator Kenyon asked McGowan if he was not a wealthy man. The witness hesitated.

"I don't suppose I would be so considered in Washington."

Story Agrees With McGowan's.

C. F. Wiehe, secretary of the Edward Hines Lumber Company, was next called. His account of dealing with young McGowan coincided with that of the latter. He said he knew no subpoena would have been effective to bring McGowan to Washington, and so it seemed reasonable to pay him for his actual losses.

Senator Lea wanted to know if McGowan's statement that he sometimes lost and sometimes made $100 a day struck Wiehe that McGowan was "suggesting" he wanted $100 for thirty days' time lost.

Wiehe said he didn't know what was in McGowan's mind.

The answer did not satisfy the senator, but Wiehe insisted he had no idea of the amount McGowan wanted.

Only Stenographers to Be Heard.

Attorney Hanecy announced before lunch recess that he had called all the witnesses he desired except the expert stenographers.

PRISONER FOUND UNCONSCIOUS

Accused Servant Taken From Police Court to Emergency Hospital.

Florence Simmons, a middle-aged domestic employed at a boarding house at 3rd and C streets northwest, was committed to jail by Judge Pugh in Police Court this morning, in default of $500 bond, to await the action of the grand jury on a barge of grand larceny. Twenty minutes later the woman was found unconscious on the floor in the cellroom of the court, with gas flowing from two open jets, and the window and door tightly closed.

The woman was arrested yesterday, charged with the theft of a pocketbook containing $60, the property of Harold A. Neff, a boarder at the house where she was employed as a chambermaid. The police said that when she was arrested the woman confessed having taken the money, but when she appeared this morning before Judge Pugh her plea was "not guilty."

Returning to the cellroom from Police Court, the woman went immediately to the washroom. A little later Policeman Hatton detected the odor of gas, and on investigation found his prisoner unconscious on the floor and the atmosphere of the room heavy with gas from the two wide-open jets. With the aid of Deputy United States Marshal Reed and several court attendants, the woman was partly revived, and she was removed to the Emergency Hospital, where it was stated later that her condition is satisfactory.

LABOR ON LAKE VESSELS.

Secretary Olander of Seamen's Union Heard by House Steel Committee.

Labor conditions on the great lakes and the attitude toward labor of the Pittsburgh Steamship Company, a subsidiary of the United States Steel Company, were discussed at today's hearing before the House committee investigating the affairs of the so-called "steel trust. V. A. Olander of Chicago, secretary of the Lake Seamen's Union, testified along this line. He attacked the "welfare plan" of the Lake Carriers' Association as part of a system of employment designed virtually to control the minds of the workmen. The Pittsburgh company belongs to the Lake Carriers' Association.

FOR FOLK DELEGATION.

Senator Reed Thinks Missouri Democrats Should Keep Pledge.

Senator Reed of Missouri issued a statement today reiterating that the Missouri state convention's resolution two years ago to give Gov. Folk an instructed delegation to the next national democratic convention should be ratified at the coming state convention at Joplin.

"The interests of the democratic party will be best subserved by carrying out the pledge of the 1910 convention," said he.

Mr. Reed was not present at the 1910 convention, but indorsed its action.

SCHWAB ON STAND

(Continued from First Page.)

I want to say that if the House bill passes I shall drop it."

The witness expressed the opinion that under the present depressed condition no independent steel business could make money. "There are times when they may do so, but those times would not come at all under the proposed rates."

Mr. Schwab refused to discuss with Senator Simmons a statement by Mr. Carnegie that the steel duty could be abolished. "I must refuse to discuss any opinion of a man who has been so near and dear to me as has Mr. Carnegie."

"It is a case of armed neutrality, then?"

"No, not at all; Mr. Carnegie has been a father to me." He went on, however, to say that, especially in the east, the steel industry does need protection. "Most emphatically I am a protectionist," he said. Replying to a question from Senator Smoot, Mr. Schwab admitted that Mr. Carnegie did not have as much practical knowledge of steelmaking as himself.

"Has Mr. Carnegie ever interested himself by studying out the details of the business?" was asked. The witness replied:

Wisdom of Mr. Carnegie.

"No; but he had a fine general knowledge of the business, and he showed the greatest wisdom by giving half he earned to the men who made his business successful."

When Senator Stone remarked that Mr. Carnegie had accumulated an enormous fortune Mr. Schwab said, "Not half as much as he has deserved." In response the Missouri senator said he thought that "four hundred or five hundred millions is a pretty good pot."

He said that in no instance does the United States export to and sell steel rails in any country in which rails are made. The foreign sales were made in neutral markets. He predicted that other countries would be selling rails here within a year if the rates proposed by the House are to go into effect.

Miss Margaret Byington of Pittsburgh, the first woman to appear before the investigating committee, will testify tomorrow regarding conditions at the Homestead plant of the United States Steel Company. Miss Byington once wrote a book on that subject. Mrs. Hargrave, a daughter of William J. Bryan, was among the spectators today, and was introduced to all the members of the committee.

V. A. Olander of Chicago described his ten years' official activity in the Lake Seamen's Union, which has 4,000 members.

"What company is the dominant factor in this lake traffic?" asked Chairman Stanley.

"The Pittsburgh Steamship Company. It has one-quarter of the tonnage of the Lake Carriers' Association and nearly one-quarter of the vessels in the lake traffic."

"It's a subsidiary of the steel trust?"

"Yes, sir."

Tells of Welfare Plan.

"What is the purpose of the company's welfare plan provision for an assembly room for the men?"

"To control the men while unemployed."

"What is your idea of the welfare plan?"

"It is a great deal more vicious that the old shipping federation of Great Britain, conducted so badly that it was found difficult to get men to go to sea."

He described the British seamen's strike last year, and suggested that possibly the majority of the strikers had not been members of an organization.

"What was the result of that strike?"

"The almost entire abolition of the shipping federation."

George L. Hamilton of North Andover, Mass., a card clothing manufacturer, predicted that if the House rates should go into effect the importations would be doubled and the industry practically destroyed. He said the ad valorem system would be a great temptation to undervaluation.

Spencer Miller of New York complained that the effect of the House rates on machinery would be to reduce the revenue and at the same time diminish the wages of American laborers.

J. J. HILL SUBPOENAED.

Called On to Testify Before "Steel Trust" Committee.

James J. Hill, chairman of the directorate of the Great Northern railroad, has been served with a subpoena at Jekyll Island, Ga., to testify before the House "steel trust" investigating committee next Monday regarding the so-called Hill lease of the Lake Superior ore fields to the United States Steel Corporation and the corporation's transportation facilities.

TEST OF MOTOR TRUCKS FOR USE IN THE ARMY

Three Machines Start on 1,500-Mile Trip to Fort Benjamin Harrison.

One of the most severe endurance tests of automobile trucks in use by the United States Army began in this city today, when Capt. Alexander E. Williams, U. S. A., started on a 1,500-mile journey to Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis, with three motor trucks of various makes. The principle purpose of this test is to determine the relative advantages of the chain drive and the shaft drive.

The route the machines will follow will include the cities of Richmond, Va.; Raleigh and Charlotte, N. C.; Atlanta, Ga.; Chattanooga and Nashville, Tenn.; Louisville, Ky., and thence to Fort Benjamin Harrison at Indianapolis, Ind. By taking this route, it was pointed out, almost every class of road will be found, from the deep mud to the fine macadam, and even mountainous roads will be traversed.

The object of taking the cars out on the journey at this time was to take advantage of the thaws expected at this time of the year and try the automobiles on muddy roads. Capt. Williams is of opinion that he will arrive at his destination in about three weeks but other officers familiar with the conditions he will encounter on some of the roads in the south predict that it will take him twice as long.

Each of the cars carries 3,000 pounds of sand. The men will try to make town each night, and to reach Fredericksburg, Va., tonight.

When Capt. Williams reaches Indianapolis he will join his regiment and the tests will be continued throughout the summer, the machines visiting many of the maneuver camps which it is proposed to have.

LAWYER SUES POLICEMAN.

Leo Simmons Wants $20,000 for Humiliation Declared Unjustifiable.

Leo Simmons, a member of the bar, today filed suit to recover $20,000 from J. F. Sullivan, a police officer. According to the declaration filed by Attorneys F. B. Rhodes and Elbert Johnson, the policeman humiliated the lawyer by requiring him to ride through the streets in a patrol wagon April 14 last, when the only charge to be preferred against him was a violation of the building regulations.

Mr. Simmons says he was not guilty of the charge, and claims the officer had no probable cause for securing the warrant or arresting him. The proceedings were quashed in the Police Court.

Mr. Prouty on District Committee.

Representative Prouty of Iowa today was unanimously elected by the House a member of the House committee on the District of Columbia, to succeed Representative J. Hampton Moore of Pennsylvania, the senior republican member of that committee, who resigned recently. Mr. Moore is a regular and a conservative. Mr. Prouty is an insurgent.

GOMPERS IS READY

If Free Speech Means Prison, He Will Not Flinch.

DECLARATION IN COURT

Closely Questioned as to Phrases in His Editorials.

ON STAND ALL THE MORNING

Hearing Enlivened by Tilts Between Lawyers—John Mitchell Called On.

"If the exercise of free speech and a free press involves the going to jail, I will not flinch," declared Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, in the course of his responses today to the inquiries propounded to him in cross-examination by Attorney J. J. Darlington of the committee of prosecutors in the contempt hearing, in progress before Justice Wright in Equity Court No. 2.

The labor leader declared that he set the cause of labor and the privilege of free speech and a free press above any technical violation of an injunction of a court which invaded the constitutional perogative of the citizen. He insisted, however, that nothing said or written by him since the injunction of Justice Gould became operative had been done in aid of any boycott against the Buck's Stove and Range Company, but reiterated a former statement that if the court's order forbade the right of free speech he was prepared to take the consequences, whatever they might be.

In explanation of phrases in his editorials reading "bear in mind" and "it should be borne in mind," Mr. Gompers stated they were not directed to any particular readers, but were mere expressions used from habit. When he stated "Labor will rise in its might and crush Mr. Van Cleave," the witness said, it was a figure of speech, but he was unable to say what it was meant to express, except the idea that the principles for which labor was contending would prevail even after the death of Van Cleave or other antagonists.

Mr. Gompers, in the course of his examination, availed himself of the immunity provided by section 860 of the Revised Statutes, now repealed, but which was in force at the time of the original contempt proceedings, not to answer a question concerning alleged statements in his sworn answer to the original contempt charges. Yesterday Mr. Gompers waived this right when his counsel, Alton B. Parker, attempted to interpose it.

Cross-Examination Ends.

The cross-examination of Mr. Gompers was concluded shortly after the noon recess. He was succeeded on the stand by John Mitchell, vice president of the American Federation of Labor, who was called on to explain his connection with the signing of the "urgent appeal," and the alleged putting to a vote of a resolution in the convention of the United Mine Workers, of which he was president, fining any member of that organization who should purchase a stove from the St. Louis concern that had procured the injunction.

The hearing today was occasionally enlivened by mild tilts between counsel and with amusing parries between Mr. Darlington and Mr. Gompers. The cross-examiner complained many times that the witness was not answering the questions directly. Mr. Gompers insisted that he was doing the best he could, and claimed the right to explain his responses to the interrogatories.

Mr. Darlington resumed his cross-examination with the opening of court this morning. He first called the attention of the witness to a quotation from a speech in which Mr. Gompers used the expression "despite the injunction of courts," and asked what was meant by it. The witness declared it nothing more than plain language, but admitted that probably "despite" was not the best word expressive of what was in his mind.

Asked About Pamphlets.

Later Mr. Darlington took up the dissemination of copies of the Norfolk convention of 1907, and asked witness if he did not think the sending out of these pamphlets constituted a violation of the injunction. Mr. Gompers replied that he had not considered it an official document. The cross-examiner then read to the witness excerpts from the Federationist in which Mr. Gompers is charged with saying he had been enjoined from sending out the very identical pamphlets inquired of by Mr. Darlington.

Mr. Gompers stated it was several months after the order was signed before its full import dawned on him; then it was, he explained, he made the announcement that the injunction forbid even the sale of the reports of the Norfolk convention. Witness admitted he took no steps to stop the further distribution of the records after he had "seen the light."

WILSON GOING TO KENTUCKY.

Jersey Presidential Candidate Will Address Blue Grass Legislature.

PHILADELPHIA, February 8.—Gov. Woodrow Wilson of New Jersey spent two hours between trains in Philadelphia today, en route from Allentown, Pa., where he spoke at a belated Jackson day dinner last night, to Frankfort, Ky. While here the governor met Thomas B. Love, head of the Woodrow Wilson movement in Texas.

Gov. Wilson will address the Kentucky legislature tomorrow, and will be the guest of honor at a dinner in that city. His present plans call for a complete rest between Friday night and Monday morning, when he expects to arrive in Chicago. He will leave that city Monday afternoon, and is due in Trenton Tuesday morning.

NEW ELECTRIC POWER PLANT.

To Operate Trolley Lines in Western Maryland Counties.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

HAGERSTOWN, Md., February 8.—In an official statement issued today by the new owners of the Hagerstown Street Railway Company, owning all of the trolley lines in Washington county and extensions into Frederick county, Md., and Franklin county, Pa., it was announced that immediate steps would be taken looking to the construction of a large union power plant, at a cost of over a quarter of a million dollars. This plant will not only furnish power to electric railways in this county, but also the Frederick Railway Company. The site for the proposed power plant will not be definitely decided upon until the officials have made a further study of the several localities under consideration.

BUSINESS MAN ACCUSED.

Embezzlement Charged Against Rubber Company Official.

MANSFIELD, Ohio, February 8.—Charles H. Walters, former vice president of the Mansfield Rubber Company, and interested in concerns in three states, was arrested at Galion last night on charges of larceny and embezzlement aggregating $16,654.83.

Earthquake in Martinique.

FORT DE FRANCE, Martinique, February 8.—A shock of earthquake was felt throughout the island at 3:55 this morning. No reports of damage have been received.

TAFT IS OPTIMISTIC

Belief He Will Win Election Pleases His Friends.

LOOKS TO BUSINESS MEN

Expects Support of Those Desiring Continued Prosperity.

LEADS WOMEN'S STRAW VOTE

President Victor in San Francisco by Three to One Over Roosevelt and All Others.

President Taft's sanguine belief that he can defeat any democrat nominated for the November election, expressed many times recently to friends and republican callers, is gratifying to those who know of his optimism. And it is true, too, that the President, usually careful in his statements and caring little for politics, is confident he does not misunderstand the sentiment of the people of the country. The President declares to his friends that he has not the slightest doubt as to the outcome. He is equally confident, too, that he will be nominated with comparatively little opposition.

Much stress has been laid by Roosevelt advocates upon straw votes conducted under the auspices of Roosevelt newspapers and other agencies. The White House is receiving telegrams and letters telling of straw votes taken in various parts of the country, all of them encouraging in their nature.

Women Give Taft Majority.

Today a telegram received from San Francisco stated that a straw vote city among woman voters in that city showed Taft three to one in the lead over Col. Roosevelt and all others. The vote is considered significant because California women have the right to vote in all elections, and exercise that right with deep interest.

Another straw vote from among business men in a Michigan town showed 65 for Taft, 20 for Roosevelt and 2 for La Follette.

President Taft is so far behind with his correspondence, which has been increasing at an enormous pace for weeks owing to political activities through the country, that he canceled all his office engagements today and repaired to the private precincts of the White House in an effort to dispose of a big stack of overdue work.

Replying to an invitation extended him by the John Ericsson Association of Seattle to attend the fiftieth anniversary celebration in that city of the battle between the Monitor and the Merrimac, President Taft, among other things, says:

The President's belief as to his re-election is founded largely upon his expectation that the business men of the country, those desiring a continuation of prosperity for legitimate business interests, will be for him almost solidly as against any democrat likely to be nominated. The President is not looking to the support of the big interests, some of which are still sore over the legal drubbings they have gotten through the Department of Justice, but he is told from all directions that the substantial middle-class business man is overwhelmingly for him.

This includes the manufacturer, the banker, the corner grocer, the big and little dealers of all kinds intent upon seeing business settled and allowed to continue without constant agitation and disturbance from the White House and elsewhere. The President is sure, also, that the American farmer and laborer will take about the same view as the business man, each being dependent upon the other to a large extent, and all rising or falling with good times or bad times.

"The harshness and bitterness of the feeling of that day have been mellowed by the passage of the years, and today, after an interval of half a century, we can all unite in honoring alike the memories of the heroes of both sides in that great conflict, and in rejoicing in the common prosperity that has been ours since the republic was born anew."

Delegates to Chemistry Congress.

President Taft today appointed the following representatives from the government departments to the eighth international congress of applied chemistry, to be held in this city: Dr. H. W. Wiley, Dr. C. F. Longworthy, Prof. W. W. Cook, Dr. William L. Hall, Dr. Frank K. Cameron, Prof. W. J. Humphreys, Dr. R. H. True, Dr. Marion Duckett, all of the Department of Agriculture; Dr. George Steiger, geological survey; Dr. George E. Ely, patent office; Prof. Nathaniel W. Lord, bureau of mines; Dr. Reed Hunt, marine hospital service; Dr. A. B. Adams, internal revenue bureau.

President Taft is not the only White House official deluged with correspondence. Secretary Hilles is about the busiest man in three states. What is worrying him is that this extra correspondence is not confined to political matters. Men and women everywhere with overloaded systems are appealing to him for help. A Michigan man has just written that "loose bulls are running loose in the public roads here, making much trouble for people to pass down the streets and roads." He wants Mr. Hilles to take the bull question by the horn at once and apply suitable remedies. If Mr. Hilles will send the writer a United States marshal's badge the writer guarantees to make the owners of the loose bulls stand around.

BLACK FOX SIGHTED.

Old-Fashioned Hunt Being Organized in Southern Indiana.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., February 8.—Residents of the Indiana knobs, opposite this city, have caught glimpses of a rare black fox, whose fur is the most valuable of any of the North American foxes, and an old-fashioned hunt is being organized by sportsmen in the hope of catching it. The black fox is a native of Alaska, and it is thought this may be a freak of the ordinary species. A year ago a Canadian silver fox was captured among the knobs, and its fur was sold in this city for $300.

Ocean Steamship Movements.

SIASCONSET, Mass., February 8.—Steamer Oceania, Trieste for New York, 233 miles east of Sandy Hook at 6 a.m. Dock about 8:30 a.m. Friday.

NEW YORK, February 8.—Arrived: Steamer C. F. Tietgen, Copenhagen.

PLYMOUTH, February 8.—Arrived: Steamer Noordam, New York.

SABLE ISLAND, February 8.—Steamer La Provence, Havre for New York, 850 miles east of Sandy Hook at 8:05 a.m. Dock about 5:30 a.m. Saturday.

Steamer Baltic, Liverpool, for New York, 759 miles east of Sandy Hook at midnight February 7. Dock about 8:30 a.m. Saturday.

Steamer Madonna, Marseille, for New York, 830 miles east of Sandy Hook at 8 a.m.

ILL IN BED; MARRIED.

Lieut. Commander Thomas, U. S. N., and Miss Grace Mellus Wed.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., February 8.—Lieutenant Commander Samuel Brown Thomas, U. S. N., son of the late Rear Admiral Charles M. Thomas, and Miss Grace Mellus of Los Angeles were married here yesterday, but the wedding was not the brilliant society event that had been planned.

A week ago the naval officer was stricken with pneumonia, and since that time had been confined to his bed. Although unable to lift his head from his pillow, he had decided that the wedding should take place on the date fixed, and Miss Mellus having consented, the ceremony was performed at his bedside.

ENTOMBED MINERS SAFE; TALK WITH RESCUERS

Men Working to Open Abandoned Shaft Leading to Imprisoned Men.

SUTTER CREEK, Cal., February 8.—One hundred and forty men are working rapidly to remove the debris choking the shaft of the Bunker Hill mine today to rescue sixty-two miners entombed by a cave-in yesterday at the mouth of the incline shaft. Another possibility of escape was found by the imprisoned men in an abandoned tunnel at the 200-foot level, reached by an old shaft, partly filled with debris. One of the men called through the air pipe that he had climbed to the tunnel, and a crew was set at work clearing the earth and timbers in the shaft and digging through a cave-in in the tunnel which blocks the exits.

Blocked 100 Feet Down.

The shaft is believed to be blocked about 100 feet from the mouth. A loaded skip broke loose at the surface and shot down the incline, tearing loose the collar timbers of the shaft. The upper timbers gave way and the hanging wall dropped, filling the opening with timbers and rock.

No food was dropped through the air pipe for fear of choking it, but if the men are not rescued today liquids will be sent down. The miners had just finished lunch when the cave-in occurred. John Sissons, who acted as spokesman through the air pipe, said they were not suffering, and advised that no chances be taken in sending food through the pipe.

INSURRECTOS CONTROL IN NORTHERN MEXICO

Have Full Sway From Juarez as Far South as Casas Grandes.

Anti-Maderistas, apparently, are in control of Mexico from Juarez south as far as Casas Grandes, according to advices received at the State Department today, although none of the reports tells of open hostilities between the federals and the insurrectos. Railroad communication between Juarez and Casas Grandes has been abandoned.

The reports indicate that a serious situation confronts the government at Casas Grandes, which recently went over to the rebels without a shot being fired. Not only have the local authorities openly declared themselves against the Madero regime, but the soldiers and officials to all appearances sympathize with the movement.

Cannot Hold Prisoners.

Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood, chief of the general staff, by direction of Secretary Stimson, has ordered Col. Steever, in command of the 4th Cavalry at El Paso, to turn the thirteen insurrectos caught on American soil day before yesterday over to the civil authorities, as the military have no right to hold them in time of peace. The men are now confined in the guardhouse at El Paso.

It is said at the War Department that there is nothing in the present situation on the Mexican border even remotely requiring the services of the National Guard, and that the report that it was contemplated to utilize that branch of the national defense in a possible invasion of Mexican territory is ridiculous, in view of the fact that the militia cannot be ordered beyond the limits of the United States or its possessions.

DEBATE ON ARMY PLAN.

Kahn Wants Reorganization to Be General.

Opposition to any reorganization of the army that does not embrace the whole fighting force was voiced in the House today by Representative Kahn, republican, California, in the renewal of the debate on the Hay reorganization plan.

Representative Helm, democrat, Kentucky, declared that the United States now has practically no army, so far as the fighting force is concerned.

"We have spent $1,000,000,000 in ten years, and have a $20,000,000 army to show for it," he said. He urged the adoption of the reorganization scheme in the interest of economy. Representative Kahn opposed it because it would reorganize only the general staff. The war department is now working, he said, upon a general reorganization scheme that will embrace all branches of the army.

GIRL TRIES TO END LIFE.

Had Inhaled Gas Through Tube in Her Boarding House.

NEW YORK, February 8.—Florence M. Starr, twenty years old, who said her home was at No. 123 South Broadway, Baltimore, was removed a prisoner today from a boarding house on West 34th street to Bellevue Hospital, on a charge of attempting suicide. She had inhaled gas through a tube, but was discovered in time to save her life. Her condition is not serious.

The girl, according to several persons in whom she confided, was despondent on account of her low financial condition and the fact that she was remaining away from her home to forget a young man to whom her parents objected.

MAJ. SULLY, NOVEL HERO, DEAD

Confederate Veteran Passes Away at Charlotte, N. C.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., February 8.—Maj. Edwin Sully, hero of John Esten Cooke's novel, "Mohun," Confederate veteran and son of Thomas Sully, whose pictures adorn the Corcoran Art Gallery at Washington, D. C., died suddenly last night at his home in Rockingham, N. C., following a stroke of paralysis.

He war a native of Richmond, Va., and the body will be taken there today for burial. He was seventy-four years old.

NEW PUBLIC UTILITIES BILL.

Proposed as a Substitute by Senator Works.

Senator Works of California, a member of the Senate District committee, this afternoon proposed an entirely new public utility bill as a substitute for the Gallinger measure, which is now pending before the Senate.

Senator Works explained that his substitute was similar to a utilities bill presented in the House, and he asked that the reports of the District Commissioners upon the House bill be printed with his substitute.

Atlantic Coast Line.

Florida-Augusta-Cuba-South.

All-steel, electric-lighted Pullmans. 4 ltd. trains daily. 1419 New York ave. n.w. —Advt.

REPORT MAY STAND

Hearings on "True Consideration" Bill Non-Productive.

BOTH SIDES END ARGUMENT

No Intimation, However, That Committee Will Ask for Return of Measure for Another Vote.

Hearings were concluded today before the House District committee on the bill recently introduced in Congress by Representative Johnson of Kentucky, which, if enacted into law, would compel the recital of the true consideration in deeds and deeds of trust for property conveyed in the District. To all appearances, however, the hearings have attained no definite object, so that all of the time spent in preparing and in presenting arguments for and against the measure has been wasted, it is believed, since no indication was offered, as today's proceedings terminated, that either Mr. Johnson or any other member of his committee would take the initiative in making a motion before the House that the bill be recommitted to the committee.

This fact was brought out by George Y. Worthington, who has been the leader of the forces of the local real estate operators in opposing the enactment of the bill, and Mr. Worthington made the direct request of Chairman Johnson to recall the favorable report which the committee made some time ago, ask the House in a motion to recommit the measure and thus give the committee an opportunity to consider the arguments presented in the hearings before passing finally upon its report to the House.

Arguments in Form of Briefs.

It was shown while thirteen members of the committee voted for the favorable report upon the bill only a few of them have heard all of the arguments in the hearings, and to meet this difficulty and to give to every committeeman a summary of the points made for and against the measure Chairman Johnson announced that all the arguments might be represented in the form of briefs with one copy furnished for each member of the committee.

J. H. Adriaans, who was in the midst of an argument in favor of the bill when adjournment was taken at the hearing last Friday, completed his talk today.

Says Bill Would be Benefit.

M. I.