

THE RIVER PRESS.

Vol. XXXIII.

Fort Benton, Montana, Wednesday December 4, 1912.

No. 7

CONGRESS BEGINS BUSINESS.

Short Session Will Continue Until March 4, 1913.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Congress met promptly at noon today for the short session that will terminate with the incoming of the democratic administration March 4. Crowded galleries looked down on the animated scenes on the floor as Speaker Clark in the house and Senator Bacon, president of the senate, rapped the respective bodies to order at the stroke of 12.

Senators surged through the doors at the last moment and it took some time to secure order for the prayer by the chaplain, the Rev. U. G. B. Pierce.

Failure of members of the house to reach the floor delayed the opening of the session of the house to about a minute after the hour of noon.

When Speaker Clark climbed the stairs to the rostrum he was greeted by applause from the floor and crowded galleries.

The roll call by states followed. When the name of former speaker Cannon was called the members rose and applauded and cheered the veteran legislator, whose services at this session will conclude 40 years in the halls of congress.

"Uncle Joe" rose in his place and bowed his acknowledgment of the greetings.

After the adoption of the customary resolution to appoint members of a joint committee to notify the president that congress had assembled, Senator Lodge moved that the senate meet tomorrow at 11 o'clock. It was adopted without debate, the purpose being to give time for the reading of President Taft's message before the hour set for the convening of the Archibald court of impeachment.

Senator Root gave the senate the formal notification of the death of Vice President Sherman. Resolutions were adopted conveying the senate's sympathy to the family of the late vice president.

Direct Payment of Pensions.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—The new system of paying all persons on the federal pension rolls direct from Washington instead of through the 18 pension agencies, is being put into effect by the pension bureau. Checks are being sent to 300,000 pensioners covered by the agencies.

For the first time in history the pensioners will be paid without the formality of vouchers, the checks serving the same purpose by requiring endorsement by the pensioner in the presence of two witnesses. The pensioner also must show to the endorser his certificate, the number of which must tally with the certificate number of the checks. The new system obviates the necessity of receipts from the pensioners.

Dynamite Suspects Discharged.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 2.—Four of the 45 defendants in the "dynamite conspiracy" trial were discharged today by the government on the ground that the charges against them had not been sustained. The government said its release of the above defendants did not affect the merits of the remaining cases.

Herbert S. Hockin, named by witnesses as the man who organized the McNamara "dynamite crew" and later became a spy in the ranks of the union against Orville E. McManis and others, resigned today as secretary-treasurer of the International Association of Bridge & Structural Iron workers.

Big Crowd At Pie Counter.

CHICAGO, Dec. 2.—Democratic office seekers crowded the corridors of the city hall and county building before daylight this morning as a preliminary to assumption of office by the newly elected officials. At 4 o'clock in the morning the throng of job hunters numbered several hundred and an army of bailiffs was necessary to maintain order. For the first time in several years the democrats controlled practically all the city and county offices and the rush for the places held by republicans led democratic party workers to appear at the buildings long before daylight.

Decoys For Purse Snatchers.

CHICAGO, Dec. 1.—Half a dozen slim, graceful, beardless and small footed detectives were selected today to be dressed up in women's clothes with muffs and tempting looking purses to decoy some of the army of purse snatchers that have descended on this city.

The innovation was the idea of Captain Wm. Cudmore of the North Shore district. He spent part of the afternoon picking out the men and giving

the orders for their street dresses. The assignment is not desired by the policemen who are eligible for such duty and the likely ones are trembling in fear of having to don high heeled shoes and corsets.

Senate Equally Divided.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 29.—Governor Goldsborough announced tonight the appointment of William P. Jackson, republican national committeeman for Maryland, to succeed the late United States Senator Isidor B. Rayner.

He will serve until the legislature which meets in January, 1913, fills what will then be an unexpired term of three years. The legislature at that time also will elect a successor to Senator John Walter Smith, democrat, whose term will expire in 1915.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—The appointment of William P. Jackson, a republican, as the successor to the late senator Rayner of Maryland, reduces the supposed democratic majority in the new senate to a point very near the dividing line. Before Senator Rayner's death, the democratic leaders counted on having 49 votes or more than a majority. Now they count on only 48, with the democratic vice president to cast the deciding vote in case of a tie.

WILL BE SHORT SESSION.

Congress Will Have Little Time For General Legislation.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—How to dispose of \$1,000,000,000 worth of annual appropriation bills and transact all other general legislation in 28 days is the problem worrying Speaker Clark and his associate managers of the house of representatives. Republican Leader Mann, just back from Panama, dropped in today to greet the speaker.

"We did not make any plans for the session," said Mr. Mann later, with mild cynicism. "The truth is the democrats, now they have come into power, are afraid to do anything important at this short session for fear it will put them on record for the future."

Speaker Clark agreed that no plans for the future had been considered, but he took a different view of the reasons why no general legislation of importance is likely to be enacted at the winter session.

"There are actually only about 26 free days of work on appropriation bills and general measures," said the speaker. "There are 92 days in the session. Take out 13 Sundays, 14 for the Christmas holidays, 13 Mondays which are donated alternately to District of Columbia and pension legislation, 13 Wednesdays which are given by ironclad rule to bills on the regular calendar and 13 Fridays devoted alternately to claims and private bills and there are left but 26 unencumbered days for general work."

Dixon Will Get Busy.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—Senator Dixon, during the short session of congress, will attempt to get final action on the several bills affecting Montana which did not receive consideration at the last session. Among the measures he will press for consideration are the following:

Authorizing an additional federal judge for Montana; providing for the opening of the Crow Indian reservation; authorizing the appointment of a superintendent of Glacier National park and granting authority over the United States government; authorizing a weather bureau station at Missoula to cost \$18,000; increasing the Billings public building to \$185,000; appropriating \$60,000 additional for the Missoula public buildings, and establishing the Jefferson park game preserve.

Prohibits Rag Time Dances.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Nov. 30.—"Rag time" dancing ended its lawful career in Sacramento at midnight Thursday night, when an ordinance, adopted 30 days ago to prohibit immoral dancing in public became effective. The proprietors of the dance halls ordered the ordinance strictly complied with. After midnight the orchestras in the dance halls played waltzes. The two-step was indulged in as well as other "military" styles of the sort.

New Test For Immigrants.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—The passage of laws prescribing a literary test for prospective immigrants into the United States by both house and senate at the coming session of congress was predicted today by Representative Burnett of Alabama, chairman of the house immigration committee. Mr. Burnett declared that he had been assured of enough votes in the house to pass the measure and that there was little opposition in the senate.

ADVERTISING MONTANA.

Exhibits At Land Show Were Center of Attraction.

BILLINGS, Nov. 28.—An immense amount of good will accrues to Montana from the publicity given at the lands products exposition which closed last week in Minneapolis, and the state is now in a position to receive the greatest increase in population in its history, is the belief of J. L. Moore, traveling immigrant agent of the Northern Pacific, who has just returned to this city.

Mr. Moore says, taken as a whole, the products exhibited by Montana far outclassed those from any of the other states and that fully 80 per cent of the 160,000 persons in attendance were making more inquiry regarding this state than any of the northwestern groups.

Mr. Moore said he gave away nearly 30,000 booklets descriptive of the state's resources and that each of these were placed in the hands of persons who voluntarily inquired for them.

The exhibits shown at Minneapolis will be sent to New York, where they will be made part of a permanent display, and four new cars have been fitted with products of the finest sort. These cars will be taken through all states of the central west and the result will be widespread publicity for Montana.

Pension Payments Increase.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—Appropriations of nearly \$200,000,000 of pensions to veterans of American wars will be necessary at the short session of congress that opens Monday. The unusual sum, exceeding all appropriations of former years, will be necessary to make up a deficit of nearly \$20,000,000 resulting from the increase of pensions under the Sherwood law of last summer.

Estimates obtained by members of congress today indicate that the regular pension bill probably will carry about \$175,000,000. This, in itself, will be a record breaking total. The pension bureau has enough money for the present but will run short between March 4 and July 1, when the new fiscal year begins, unless it gets the extra \$20,000,000.

Adjusting Railway Mail Rates.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—Readjustment of railway mail was the subject of a conference between Postmaster General Hitchcock and representatives of several of the larger railway systems of the country. The railways now are paid according to the weight of mail carried, while Mr. Hitchcock proposed to pay according to the amount of car space actually used.

Figures compiled at the postoffice department as to the actual cost of carrying the mails indicate that under the present system many roads are receiving an exorbitant amount, while some of the smaller lines are actually losing money.

Under the weight system the government pays approximately \$50,000,000 a year to the railways for carrying mail. Mr. Hitchcock contends that if his plan is adopted it will result in an annual saving of not less than \$9,000,000.

Taft Will Name Commission.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—President Taft is expected to determine upon the membership of the industrial commission before the Christmas holidays are over.

This commission is regarded by Mr. Taft as one of the most important authorized by congress in recent years and will examine the whole subject of the relations of labor and capital. Hundreds of names have been suggested from which the president must select nine men—three employers of labor, three representatives of labor and three other persons.

World's Heaviest Woman.

MONTREAL, Nov. 29.—Mrs. Justin Meason, who weighed 770 pounds, and is said to have been the largest woman in the world, died here today. Several months ago she became insane and taken in charge by the Assistant Public. In the institution she became notorious for exploits of strength when in a frenzy. Even the walls of her room failed to restrain her and it was necessary to build a round house outside the main building for her.

Conference of Progressives.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—Senator Dixon, chairman of the progressive national committee, who has just returned from a visit to Oyster Bay, said today that Colonel Roosevelt would attend the national conference of progressive leaders, to be held in Chicago on December 10 and 11. Mr. Dixon has expressed the opinion that

Governor Johnson would attend. He announced that there would be a meeting of the executive committee of the national committee December 9. Senator Dixon declared he had received many letters from progressives and he felt assured of a large attendance of representative men from the various states.

The conference he said, would be devoted largely to devising ways and means for carrying on the work of organizing in the next four years.

Democrats Want Office.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—That an effort will be made to suspend President Taft's executive order of October 15, whereby about 36,000 fourth class postmasters were placed under the civil service, became known today, when Representative Cordell Hull of Tennessee said the democrats in congress who are already in Washington have conferred informally on the subject, and there was an overwhelming sentiment in favor of having the order revoked. Representative Hull said President-elect Wilson, under the civil service law, would have the power to revoke President Taft's order.

Horse Meat In Sausage.

CHICAGO, Nov. 30.—Hundreds of unsuspecting Chicagoans have been eating horse meat recently, according to investigations of the city health department. Assistant Health Commissioner Hoehler announced today he would ask for a warrant for the arrest of a north side sausage manufacturer. The health department investigators say they have evidence that at least one butcher on the north side has been selling horse meat from a slaughter house in a suburb. They also assert that a number of sausage makers have been using horse meat in preparing their product for the market. It is reported that most of the sausage with horse meat as an ingredient has been sold to saloons for use on free lunch counters.

Would Postpone Inaugural Show.

HAMILTON, Bermuda, Nov. 30.—Governor Woodrow Wilson is willing to take his oath of office as president of the United States without ostentation on March 4, and that the formal ceremonies that every four years attract many visitors to Washington should be postponed until the last Thursday in April.

Many persons have urged the president-elect to sanction a postponement of the inaugural ceremonies without realizing that this cannot be done without an act of congress, and that it is impossible now to change the forth-coming ceremony, as far as the taking of the oath is concerned. Mr. Wilson's statement however indicates his sympathy with later inauguration movement and implies that he gladly will assent to a delay of the show features of the event if an agreement to this end can be reached.

Bryan Has Model Farm.

MISSION, Texas, Nov. 28.—Colonel William J. Bryan owns a farm of 200 acres near here, and is bringing this farm into an intense state of cultivation, growing produce for northern markets. The method of farming which he applies to the land requires the employment of an unusual number of laborers and Mexicans as on other ranches hereabouts.

Mr. Bryan is rapidly making his farm one of the show places of south Texas. He will soon begin the erection of a country home here at a cost of \$100,000. It is reported it will be the finest farm residence in the state.

Popular Vote For President.

NEW YORK, Nov. 27.—The popular vote for president in the election of 1912 shows that Wilson polled throughout the country a total of 6,156,955 votes; Roosevelt 3,928,211, and Taft 3,295,612.

The socialist vote for Debs amounted to 674,783 with the socialist count still unfinished in seven states; Chasfin 161,008.

In Montana Wilson polled 28,230 votes, Roosevelt 22,448, Taft 18,404 Debs 10,828.

In 1908 Bryan's popular vote was 6,393,182 and that of Taft 7,637,676.

Rejected Woman Suffrage.

MADISON, Nov. 29.—The proposed woman's suffrage amendment in Wisconsin was defeated at the recent election by a majority of 91,478, according to the official returns. The total vote on the proposed amendment was 135,546 for and 227,024 against. Three other amendments voted on at the recent election carried.

As She Had Heard It.

Kindergarten Teacher—What animal is called the king of beasts? Scholar—Pa when ma's mad!

WANT ALASKA COAL.

Mining Congress Favors Open Policy By Government.

SPOKANE, Nov. 27.—A law which would take the determination of the validity of Alaska coal claims from the hands of the department of the interior and place it in the hands of the federal courts was endorsed by the American mining congress today. A resolution was adopted favoring a federal law providing that all Alaska coal claimants who filed on their claims prior to the withdrawal order of Nov. 12, 1906, be permitted to bring action against the United States in the federal courts of Alaska with right of appeal to the United States circuit and United States supreme courts to establish the validity of their claims, the final act of the courts to be conclusive, the claims declared invalid being canceled thereby, and the issuing of patents becoming mandatory for those claims declared valid.

Other resolutions adopted included a recommendation to President-elect Wilson that he appoint a man from one of the so called public lands states as secretary of the interior, and that congress direct the forest service to aid in building and maintaining roads to isolated mining camps within forest reserves. The congress will urge that an appropriation be made for the compiling and publishing of mining statistics by the census bureau.

Petition Two Miles Long.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 28.—The liberty bell petition, mounted on a huge reel and containing the signatures of nearly 600,000 school children of California, started on its journey to Philadelphia today after being paraded down Market street with military honors. When the Philadelphia authorities showed an unwillingness to send the liberty bell to San Francisco for the Panama-Pacific International exposition in 1915 it was decided to make an appeal to them in the form of a petition signed by California school children. The plan proved a success and the signatures pasted together make a string nearly two miles long.

Taft Is Not a Candidate.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—President Taft has quietly informed friends that no matter how active his participation in a reorganization of the republican party may be, he is not to be regarded nor publicly referred to in political speeches by republicans as a possible candidate for the presidency in 1916.

The president intends to do all in his power to help rejuvenate the party and probably will make many political speeches before March 4, and after he enters private life, but, according to close friends, he is in the fight to continue the party, and to try to return it to power as the man who had been its standard bearer for four years and not as a man seeking a renomination four years hence.

To Pension Ex-Presidents.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—Representative Albert S. Burleson of Texas will introduce a bill to give ex-presidents the privileges of the house that a delegate from one of the territories enjoys. The measure will provide a salary of \$17,000 annually and prohibit an ex-presidential member from serving on committees or voting. This bill is founded upon the suggestion of William J. Bryan to let ex-presidents take part in the debates of congress.

Representative Henry D. Clayton of Alabama has announced that he will ask the house before Christmas to pass his bill limiting the service of a president to one term of six years. He hopes to have the senate accept the measure before the session is over.

Patrick Receives Pardon.

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 27.—Albert T. Patrick, who is serving a life sentence in Sing Sing prison for the murder of Wm. March Rice, an aged millionaire, in New York city on September 23, 1900, was pardoned tonight by Governor Dix.

Patrick, who was saved from the electric chair by the late Governor Higgins in December, 1906, has made a remarkable fight for freedom. A lawyer by profession, he protested when Governor Higgins commuted the death sentence to life imprisonment, declaring the governor had no legal right to cancel the original sentence and impose a punishment of life imprisonment.

Large Campaign Contribution.

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 26.—Contributions amounting to \$668,869 to aid the candidacy of Theodore Roosevelt for the presidency, were received by the

national committee of the progressive party, according to a certificate giving the final figures filed with the secretary of state. The expenses of the committee were \$541,980.

George W. Perkins gave the national committee \$130,000, and the state committee \$10,000, while Frank A. Munsey contributed \$61,250 to the national committee and \$20,000 to the New York state committee.

Will Not Need Ticklers.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26.—The District Commissioners will not permit the use of "ticklers" during the inauguration of President-elect Wilson. A "tickler" is a small bunch of feathers on a long stem used to tickle somebody's nose. The commissioners hold that the democrats will be tickled enough without any such contrivances.

Expenses of Candidates.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26.—Complete returns received by the clerk of the house of representatives show the following amounts expended by various candidates for congress in Montana in their respective campaigns for nomination and election:

Tom Stout, democrat, nothing; John M. Evans, democrat, \$170; Charles N. Pray, republican, \$1,000; W. R. Allen, republican, \$621; George A. Horkan, progressive, \$212; Thomas M. Everett, progressive, \$520.

Preparing For Parcels Post.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26.—In order that adequate facilities may be provided for handling parcels-post business with efficiency and on a country-wide scale at the outset January 1, Postmaster General Hitchcock has asked every postmaster in the United States to obtain information from the business public as to probable extent the new system will be used.

PROTECTING PIE COUNTER.

Democratic Senators Want Public Offices For Democrats.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26.—Senator Myers of Montana, after talks had with other democratic senators, is of the opinion that the senate will refuse to confirm nominations sent to it by President Taft during the short session, especially where nominations are to fill terms which expire between December 2 and March 4. Democratic senators generally are disposed to hold these appointments, allowing incumbents to serve until March 4, that all such offices may be available for democratic appointees when the new administration opens.

In Montana several important post-offices become vacant during the short session of congress and Senator Myers believe no new appointments should be made to those offices, for if republicans are appointed this winter they will serve practically throughout the Wilson administration. The senator rather takes the position that the present postmasters should be allowed to serve until March 4 and then make way for democrats. In regard to either presidential post masters and federal officers in Montana appointed prior to election for the four-year term, he says he favors allowing them to serve out their appointed terms and then be replaced by democrats. In other words, he would not disturb officials now in office until their terms expire.

Senator Dixon Will Retire.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—Senator Dixon today authorized denial of the report that he intends taking charge of the progressive publicity bureau of this city during the coming four years. The bureau will be established here, but will be in charge of Oscar King Davis, who assisted Mr. Dixon during the recent campaign. Senator Dixon says he intends returning to Montana as soon as the short session of congress ends, and that he has no regrets upon his retirement from congress.

He believes the progressive and democratic parties will be the leading political organizations of the country from this time on, and that the republican party, as now constituted, has ended its usefulness.

Suit Against Sugar Company.

NEW YORK, Nov. 26.—Having collected \$2,135,486 from the American Sugar Refining company, \$695,304 from Ar buckle Bros. and \$604,304 from the National Sugar Refining company in customs suits, mainly for underweighting cargoes, the department of justice has brought suit on the same account for \$119,080.98 against the Federal Sugar Refining company. The complaint charges underweighting of cargoes from 1902 to 1909. Collector Leeb furnished the figures at the time that he compiled his findings against the other companies.