

IMPROVING THE RIVERS

Necessity of Deepening the Waterways of California.

A SENATE RESOLUTION.

The Government Is to Be Asked to Expound the Appropriations.

BENEFITS TO BE DERIVED.

A Matter of Great Interest to the Producer and the Merchant.

SACRAMENTO, March 6.—The Senate today recommended that action be taken by the Governor with a view to securing the expenditure of Government appropriations for the improvement of California's rivers.

WHEREAS, The river systems of California have been examined by the engineers of the War Department and recommendations have been made from time to time for their improvement, particularly so by executive decision 246, Fifty-first Congress, second session, wherein a recommendation is made for a specific appropriation of \$275,000 for removal of obstructions in the lower Sacramento, and for a specific appropriation of \$300,000 for the treatment of the Yuba near and above Marysville.

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THE ASSEMBLY.

TWELVE BILLS OF THE SPECIAL FILE PASSED.

SACRAMENTO, March 6.—For the first time in nearly a week the special file was reached to-day. As a result twelve bills went to their last reading and were passed before noon.

Speaker Lynch surrendered the chair to speak in favor of the measure. Dinkelspiel of San Francisco asserted that the claim was just and should be paid, while Reid of Trinity objected.

The previous question was called and the bill passed by a vote of 58 to 18. A resolution by McKelvey of Orange, that the United States Supreme Court be requested to act as soon as possible upon the legality of the Wright law, which has been pending for three years, was lost.

Guy of San Diego presented a petition from the citizens of that town, asking that they be allowed to present several Sunday-law petitions were also presented.

Brusie of the Ways and Means Committee presented a resolution that the new member, H. M. Collins, be allowed his pay from January 7 to February 27, \$25 for expenses, and \$18 20 as mileage.

The Committee on Asylums was allowed \$317 to pay the expenses of its junketing trip to the various insane asylums of the State. This committee consisted of Messrs. Cargill, Glass, Hubner, Gray and Zocchi.

The petitions that have been presented on the matter of the boiler inspector, proposed by Twigg of San Francisco, have come to pairs so far. To-day Bettman presented one signed by steam-fitters and engineers. Another by Twigg was signed by iron manufacturers, iron-workers and workmen.

At the afternoon session the appropriations bill was taken up. In consequence the recommendations of the committees, which reduced the numerous increases made by the Senate in only five instances, were generally allowed. In four instances they were not concurred in.

mit to the raise of \$10,000 by the Senate without objection. North of Alameda, Bledsoe of Humboldt and Bulla and Bachman all favored a reduction, and as a result, the recommendation of the committee was not adopted.

The Senate recommendation, that the rent allowance of the Railroad Commissioner be raised from \$1000 to \$2040, was concurred in by the conference committee, but the members of the Assembly did not relish the raise.

The Senate's appropriations amounting to \$20,000 for the State Horticultural Society and another of \$2500 for the State Viticultural Society were struck out by a vote.

An attempt was made to have the House refuse to concur in the reduction made by the conference committee in the Senate's allowance for the militia. The Assembly fixed the figure at \$185,000. The Senate raised it to \$225,000. The conference committee took off the \$40,000 and the House concurred in this action.

Most of the other raises of the Senate were calmly accepted. The House lost its temper at the evening session. This time it was over the fish and game law. Dixon of San Francisco was in the chair. He had overlooked Reid of Trinity, who wanted to introduce an amendment, and finally ruled him out of order, when the latter wished to give notice of an intention to reconsider.

Reid worked himself into a passion and yelled: "I desire to say this much; if the Speaker of this House don't know the rules of this House or any other house I—"

But what he would do or say was lost in the clanger of the Speaker's gavel and the shouts of the members of "Point of order."

Then Bulla of Los Angeles arose and told the chair that he believed the gentleman from Trinity had a right to give notice to reconsider a bill even if it had been ordered to the Senate. Mr. Reid's notice was then entered on the journal.

When the bill was read Powers moved the appointment of a committee of one to amend the bill by striking out the clause "except salt marsh lands" from the clause which protects from trespassers all private property except when that property is salt marsh.

Belshaw of Contra Costa, while he was sorry for the poor hunter, who was barred from the wealthy man's property, thought the latter should be protected in his rights.

McKelvey argued that the titles of the bills are not legal. Bachman also protested against putting in the reserves of the wealthy clubs, asserting that it was not fair to "make the farmers of Solano County feed the geese for these city dudes to shoot."

Bassford of Solano County made a strong appeal for the provision in question. He said the laws as they stood at present had never been enforced. The ducks fed on the grain of the farmers at night and got back to the marshes in the day time, and yet in spite of this they went on the thousands of acres of marsh lands to shoot any of these ducks they were arrested.

But the amendment was lost. Reid of Trinity then tried to get in an amendment making it a misdemeanor to hunt deer with dogs.

The chair ruled him out of order though, and the bill was passed by a vote of 57 to 3. Then his attempt at reconsideration was ruled out of order in spite of his efforts at being heard.

When the session opened the speaker reminded the members of the House that there was but one more day for work. The Assembly buckled down to their labors and not only cleared up the emergency file but attended to a number of other bills.

When the matter of the appointment of the San Francisco Board of Health came up Bachman of Fresno presented an amendment to have the Governor do the appointing. This was such an evident attempt to give more patronage to the Governor that it was voted down by a vote of 43 to 10.

When the county division bill of Judge Davis of Tulare was reached, Reid of Trinity reminded the House that the bill had been defeated to-day in the Senate, and the author withdrew it.

Powers' bill to enlarge the powers of Grand Jurors was dug up out of the general file. A number of minor amendments were added and it was placed on the second reading file.

Dr. Dille on Legislators. The following letter from the Rev. Dr. E. R. Dille is self-explanatory: To the Editor of the Call:—In an address at Odd Fellows' Hall last Sunday afternoon I ventured to exercise the right of an American citizen and to characterize the acts of some of our public servants at Sacramento. In the course of my remarks I said: "The Assembly Committee on Public Morals (I) amended the bill so as to change the age of consent from 18 to 16 embodied in the bill, to 16 years. The amendment was voted down, but Mr. Bettman, the chairman of the committee on Public Morals (corner grocery saloon), voted for the amendment."

Mr. Bettman, rising to a question of privilege in the Assembly yesterday, seems to have denied having so voted, and I therefore append from my address to the committee on Public Morals, making the age of consent 16. The House voted down the amendment, leaving the age under the bill 18. The amendment was lost by the following vote: Ayes—** Bettman.

It was misinformed as to the business in which Mr. Bettman is engaged, and so far stand corrected. With regard to the other quotations from my address to which Mr. Bettman took exception under his question of privilege, I made no sweeping charges against either the San Francisco delegation or the Legislature. I expressly said of the former that, "with a few honorable exceptions, the delegation is one of the most respectable bodies of men I have ever seen," and that statement I reiterate with all the emphasis I can give. If Mr. Devine, who has been mentioned, has any objection to a question of privilege, chooses to assume that he is not one of the honorable exceptions, he has his permission. He ought to know.

With regard to the other quotation of our legislators, I refer to their legislative record, as exploited in the public press, as evidence that my "pleasantry" about guards being ready to hold down the Capitol steps, is scarcely an extravagant hyperbole.

But I have uttered no reflection, expressed or implied, upon the many good and true men who worthily represent the State at Sacramento. E. R. DILLE.

THE HAWAIIAN REVOLUTION.

Judge Frear of Honolulu Thinks the Revolution Will Be Beneficial. SANTA ROSA, March 6.—Judge Walter Frear, one of the three Supreme Judges of Hawaii, is visiting at the residence of his brother-in-law, County Treasurer Woodward, here. He was appointed Circuit Judge by Queen Liliuokalani before she was deposed. When Lilo left the Supreme bench to accept the presidency, Frear was appointed to succeed him.

Judge Frear was at Honolulu during the recent revolutionary troubles and pronounced as false and absurd all the stories about cruelty inflicted on Royalists by the Government authorities. He said the effect of the revolution had been to strengthen the government of the republic greatly, as it drew to its support many who refused to take sides before.

DEMAND HIS RECALL.

Cuba Wants to Get Rid of the Consul-General at Havana.

DETAILS ARE NOT GIVEN.

Spain to Rush Over Troops to Suppress the Rebellion.

SOLDIERS SOON TO DISEMBARK.

Provinces in a State of Siege and the Pursuit of Insurgents Progresses.

MADRID, March 6.—Captain-General Calleja has demanded the recall of the American Consul-General at Havana. At a cabinet council it was agreed to support the demand.

The report that the Cuban Province of San Kriel had been declared in a state of siege is confirmed by official dispatches received here to-day. The Government troops in Santa Clara who are pursuing a band of insurgents under the leadership of Matagas have not yet caught up with them.

General Luján, according to the dispatches from Havana, has defeated a band of Cuban rebels near Cienfuegos. Four Spanish soldiers were wounded. The other rebel bands have dispersed at Cabre and Lango.

Special dispatches from Havana report that Cuban filibustering expeditions are being organized at Tampa, Fla., and Cayo Huesco.

Particulars regarding the visit which United States Minister Taylor paid Premier Sagasta yesterday confirms the report that the Spanish Government was assured by the United States that it would do its utmost to prevent the fitting out of filibustering expeditions to Cuba.

London, March 6.—A special to the Standard says: General Calleja, Captain-General of Cuba, has sent a dispatch to the Spanish Government asking that the reinforcements for the troops on the island be sent direct to Santiago de Cuba, equipped to take the field. The War Office is hurrying the preparations, and there is great enthusiasm in military circles at the prospect of a campaign.

Detachments from various garrisons to form the first seven battalions are mustering fast at Santander, Cadix, Corunna and Barcelona, from which ports they will embark at the end of the week. The cruiser Mercedes will carry to Cuba 2,000,000 cartridges.

Key West, Fla., March 6.—An immense mass-meeting of Cuban patriots is being held to-night. The war situation is being discussed and latest reports from Cuba read. An accounting of the money collected for war purposes is being made. Committees have been appointed to look out for the wants of families whose fathers and protectors have gone to the seat of action.

NOTHING KNOWN AT WASHINGTON.

The information as to the Request for the Consul's Recall. WASHINGTON, March 6.—Owing to the lateness of the hour when the news of the demand for the recall of the American Consul-General at Havana was received, it was impossible to secure any information in regard to it here.

The last Government blue book, dated July 1, 1893, gives the name of the Consul-General at Havana as Ramon O. Williams of New York. No information on the subject has reached the Spanish legation here up to 9 o'clock this evening.

FRANCE MAY RETALIATE.

What Will Happen if Germany Places an Export Bounty on Sugar. PARIS, March 6.—The Government has decided in the event of the German Reichstag voting an export bounty on sugar to ask Parliament to vote an equivalent increase in the sugar tax on foreign sugars imported into France and to provide for the payment of an export bounty on French sugars, so as to enable them to compete with German sugars in foreign markets.

The Government also decided in the individuality mentioned to ask Parliament to limit the quantity of colonial and foreign sugars admitted into France for refining purposes, and moreover, that sugar only be allowed to be imported at certain ports and from specified countries.

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FIGHT TO SAVE A NECK.

Ingenious Argument for the Defense of Miss Gings's Slayer.

BLIXT ONE OF THE BUTCHERS.

Jurors Asked to Believe That the Smiling Fiend is Innocent.

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W. W. Erwin began his address in a subdued and impressive manner. The case had been tried, he declared, before two juries; the other one (pointing to the press table) was the jury of sensationalism—the jury of destruction. The speaker then went into a long and careful explanation of the origin of trial by jury, the law governing it and the theory of reasonable doubt.

"Adry and I put up the job to kill Miss Gings, and agreed, if we got caught, to lay it on Harry." Upon the foregoing words, the testimony of Maggie Wachtler, with which Erwin reared his defense as presented to the jury in his closing appeal for the life of his client—a family torn assunder, brother against brother. All through the day Erwin labored with the jury.

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In the absence of Commander Banks, Vice-Commander James H. Morgan presided. General Fitz John Porter, a veteran of the Mexican war, reviewed in a short address the causes leading up to and the results effected by that war.

General Egbert L. Viele spoke of the organization and its purpose, and said this order encroached in no way upon the other military societies in the United States. It included four wars, whereas most of the societies recognized only one war.

Frank Mavery spoke of the motives which prompted the organization of the order and objects for which it was created. A luncheon tendered the 200 visitors present followed.

NO MOTIVE FOR THE MURDER.

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