

CONGRESS.

Washington, Jan. 22.—Senate.—Debate on the Philippine tariff bill was not continued in the senate today, no member of the body being prepared to proceed with the discussion. The bill providing for the establishment of a department of commerce was under discussion for nearly two hours. Little progress was made with it, as while the debate disclosed no objections to the main features of the bill, there was a disposition on the part of the senate to give it careful consideration.

House.—Some of the old partisan animosities were injected into the proceedings of the house today when the item in the urgent deficiency bill appropriating \$500,000 for a military post at Manila, which the democrats have been using as a text for speeches in opposition to the Philippine policy of the administration for the last three days, was reached. Cannon, in charge of the bill, confessed that the appropriation was subject to a point of order and it went out. In lieu thereof he offered an amendment to appropriate the same sum for "shelter and protection of the officers and enlisted men of the army on duty in the Philippines. This the chair held to be in order and it at once became the subject of a very spirited debate in which Richardson, the minority leader, Williams of Mississippi and De Armond of Missouri were pitted against the chairman of the appropriations committee.

Partisan applause rang out on each side to cheer the respective champions and there seemed to be a solid line-up on each side of the political aisle. But when the vote came to be taken Cummings, a New York democrat, voted with the republicans, turning angrily on his political brethren as he did so, and with clenched fist in their faces cried out that he hoped he might be paralyzed when he refused to vote to protect an American soldier. The vote on the adoption of the amendment stood ayes 124, nays 100.

Washington, Jan. 23.—Senate.—An effort was made in the senate today by Mason of Illinois to obtain consideration for a joint resolution which he introduced, extending the thanks of congress to Rear Admiral Winfield Scott Schley "for his brave and able conduct while in command of the American fleet at the victorious battle of Santiago." The effort, however, was not successful. Mr. Mason's resolution, in addition to the thanks of congress, provided that Admiral Schley should be presented a sword, that bronze medals commemorative of the battle of Santiago should be distributed among the officers and men "under the command of Schley during said battle" and that \$10,000 be appropriated to meet the expenses of the resolution. On motion of Hale the resolution was referred to the committee on naval affairs. The resolution introduced yesterday by Teller providing for intervention on the part of this government in behalf of the Boer commandant, Scheepers, sentenced to death by the British South African authorities, was postponed indefinitely, as Scheepers already had been executed. Teller made a brief but caustic speech on the course of Great Britain in the Boer war and declared that if the facts of this case were as he understood "Great Britain, in putting Scheepers to death, is guilty of a vile assassination." The department of commerce bill was under consideration during the greater part of the session, but no definite progress made.

House.—The consideration of the urgent deficiency bill, which has been under debate in the house since Monday, was completed today, but owing to the lateness of the hour passage of the bill was postponed until tomorrow. A successful effort was made to increase the pay of rural free delivery carriers from \$500 to \$600 per annum. Hill of Connecticut made the motion to increase the appropriation for this purpose. It was resisted by Cannon and Loud, chairman of the postoffice committee, on the ground that the method was irregular, but the members with rural constituencies supported it, and it was adopted, 199 to 78.

Washington, Jan. 24.—The house today passed the urgent deficiency appropriation bill and devoted the remainder of the session to private pension legislation. It then adjourned until Monday. The republicans forced a record vote on the amendment to the deficiency bill to appropriate \$500,000 for the "protection and shelter" of American soldiers in the Philippines and sixteen democrats voted for it.

GROUT BILL OUTDONE.

New Anti-Oleo Measure More Strict Than the Original.

Washington, Jan. 24.—The house committee on agriculture yesterday, by a vote of 12 to 5, ordered a favorable report upon a more rigid oleomargarine bill than the Grout bill of the last congress. It is the McCleary bill amended in some particulars, making greater restrictions than contained in the Grout bill.

The original bill placed a tax of 10 cents per pound on oleomargarine and butterine colored to imitate yellow butter. The word "yellow" was struck out, thus making the restriction apply to imitations of white or any other kind of butter. Another change makes anyone who take uncolored butter and color it subject to all the taxes and penalties of manufacturers. The opposition to the bill proposed numerous amendments, all of which were rejected. Representative Henry of Connecticut was authorized to report the measure as amended.

A new idea with regard to the transplanting of small shrubs. He sets the seed in some earth laid in half an eggshell instead of a little pot; the shell, which has a small hole in it, to permit of draining, is placed in a box of damp mould. When the time comes for transplanting all that need to be done is to lift it out and break the shell.

OVER THE STATE

City Physician Wheeler of Webster City has been convicted of bootlegging and fined \$200. He paid it.

Nicholas Komar, an old resident of Dubuque, was fatally hurt. He was walking the track and stepped in front of one train to meet another from the opposite direction. No blame attaches to the company.

Judge Wakefield of Cherokee found Harry Hortman, accused of shooting Miss Florence Porter, guilty of murder in the first degree, and fixed the penalty at death. Hortman on his knees begged the pardon of Lewis Porter, the father of the murdered young woman. The decision of the judge meets the general approval of the community.

When Harry Hortman of Cherokee was brought up for trial for the murder of his sweetheart, Florence Porter, he changed his plea of not guilty to guilty. The court ordered that the evidence be taken in order that he might determine the degree of guilt and act wisely in passing judgment on the accused. The indictment charges murder in the first degree.

Loren Bone of Mason City, who was on trial at Charles City for manslaughter, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to eight years in the penitentiary and the payment of \$1,000. At a previous trial he had been sentenced to sixty years. He had served two years. Securing a new trial he got a change of venue to the Floyd county court, with the result as above stated. A drunken fight with a neighbor, whom he killed about three years ago, was the origin of the matter.

The right of cities to enact ordinances regulating the privileges of vehicles on streets is upheld by the supreme court in the case of Des Moines vs. W. S. Keller, the defendant having been convicted of a violation of the city ordinance requiring bicycle riders to carry a light after dark when riding on the streets of the city. The defendant was fined the minimum amount under the city regulations and the case was appealed to test the validity of the ordinance.

Thomas Peaslee, who shot and almost instantly killed his nephew, James Peaslee, at River Sioux, was taken from Little Sioux, where he gave himself up to the authorities, to River Sioux by Constable O. O. Rock and later taken to Logan. About all that he would say as to the tragedy was that he was sorry that the affair had occurred and that he didn't consider he was to blame for it. His wife has returned to her home and seems to take the affair in a most unconcerned manner.

George McCaulley, an aged farmer residing three miles east of Lake City, was gored to death by a ferocious bull. He left the house to drive his cattle out to feed; not returning at usual time it was thought he had gone to a neighbor's, but his prolonged absence gave the family some alarm and a daughter was started out to look for him and found his lifeless body somewhat mangled, lying in the road. No one saw the happening, but all indications point to the fact that he was killed by the bull that was with the cattle he was driving.

William Detar was instantly killed by a Wabash passenger train at Albia. Detar was a rural mail carrier and was on his way to the postoffice to get his mail when the accident occurred. The shock of accident threw him upon the pilot of the engine and he was carried quite a distance before the train was stopped. When he was picked up his neck was found to be broken and life was extinct. His wagon was demolished, but the train was not injured. The accident occurred on the crossing of the Burlington and Wabash roads and in a deep cut.

The Clinton county grand jury has indicted Bernard McGovern, charging him with assault to commit murder. His wife is the complaining witness. According to evidence before the grand jury, McGovern went to Clinton about a month ago, became intoxicated and went to his home in the country a few miles west of the city and made a vicious assault on his wife. He broke three of her ribs, seriously bruised her body in a number of places and then threw her into a creek. She was confined to the hospital for three weeks and for a few days it was thought she would not recover. McGovern was arrested, but his wife refused to prosecute him. He was then charged with intoxication by the chief of police and was sentenced to thirty days in the county jail. It is now understood Mrs. McGovern will appear against her husband.

A terrible shooting occurred at the saloon of Morgan Bros., at Muscatine a few days ago. Thomas Morgan, the bartender, was approached by Kid Noble, an all around tough and bad character, and in a one-sided dispute with Noble about a dog collar, Morgan was felled to the floor by a blow. Morgan retired behind the bar, while the assailant ran out cursing, only to return in about fifteen minutes with a double-barreled shotgun which, after telling Morgan "to get his gun and come on," he leveled at him, shooting him twice, the first shot taking effect in the abdomen and the second in the leg. Morgan died within a few hours. The murderer escaped through the back door of the saloon and is still at large. He was a desperate character, low in everything that the name implies, was driven out of Rock Island and Davenport a number of times, and has figured in police courts here frequently. He posed as a prize fighter and was a low gambler.

The state executive council has named a new board of mine inspectors. The new board consists of D. C. Phillips, of Hiteam; Edward M. Gray, of Des Moines; Harry Booth, of Knoxville; John Caldwell, of Seymour; and John C. Owens, of Beacon.

Joe Russell, a bartender at Sioux City, a few days ago shot and killed Sam Starks, an employe of the Armour Packing company. It was play day at the Armour plant and a number of employes were in a saloon drinking when a quarrel arose over a dice game. There was a general melee, in which Starks was shot.

WORST IN IOWA HISTORY

THE LEGISLATURE.

Des Moines, Jan. 22.—Senate.—Aside from the introduction of bills, no important business was transacted. Bills were introduced to fix the county superintendent's salary at \$1,500; to create a commission to fix the boundaries of western Iowa; to repeal the law requiring lists of building and loan stockholders to be furnished assessors; to reduce the interest on county warrants from 6 to 5 per cent; to make the park commission laws applicable to cities of 22,000 in order to take in Burlington. The appropriation bills for the state educational institutions were introduced in both houses as follows: State normal, \$175,000; state university, \$363,000 and \$55,000 additional annual support; agricultural college, \$340,000 and \$50,000 additional annual support.

House.—The house voted to permit the introduction of petitions, only when the subject of them is being considered. Bills were introduced in the house as follows: To substitute electrocution for hanging; to elect supervisors by counties instead of supervisor districts; to enact a primary law; to require the state treasurer to deposit state money at not less than 1 per cent; to establish a normal school at Knoxville; to establish reformatories at Anamosa. Kendall introduced several very important mining bills.

Joint Session.—William B. Allison, of Dubuque, and Jonathan P. Dolliver, of Fort Dodge, were at a joint session of the senate and the house of the Twenty-ninth General Assembly held at noon today in the hall of the house of representatives, elected over E. H. Thayer and John J. Seerley to the United States senate, the former for a full term of six years beginning March 4, 1903, and the latter to fill out the unexpired term caused by the death of the late John H. Gear, which began March 4, 1901. The vote was the strict party vote. Five members were absent, leaving but 145 votes in the house of which Allison and Dolliver received 119 and Thayer and Seerley 26. At the joint session, John R. Carter, of Sioux City, was elected editor of the Code supplement; Bernard Murphy, of Vinton, state printer; and Howard Tedford, of Mt. Airy, state binder. The vote on these officers was practically the same as that on United States senator.

Des Moines, Jan. 24.—Senate.—Allyn introduced a bill to create a state commission to examine auctioneers and issue certificates to those who pass; provided that those who have practiced five years and can produce a certificate of good character may be admitted without examination. Porter proposed a law, requiring an eight hour day on all public work, on work a day by the public, and in coal mines. A compulsory free text book law was introduced by Hazleton; a law to aid the state to recover \$450,000 from the federal government on account of money furnished during the civil war to equip troops was introduced by Senator Hubbard; and appropriation bills for Clarinda, \$63,500 and Council Bluffs, \$13,100.

House.—Bills were introduced as follows: By Anderson of Warren, to prevent a white person from marrying a person having as much as one-eighth part of negro blood; by Bealer of Linn, giving savings banks right to lend money outside of state; by Hamann of Scott, to appropriate \$75,200 to Soldiers' Orphans home at Davenport; by Powers, for the combining of and transporting pupils to schools too small to maintain separately; by Sweeley of Woodbury, giving cities right to own or to regulate telephone systems as to changes for service, etc.; by Wilson of Washington, to repeal the law relative to the teaching of music in the public schools; by Campbell, providing a maximum penalty of twenty years or \$1,000 fine, or both, for advising or employing a person to commit murder. An important resolution was introduced by Warren of Marion providing that the state memorialize congress to preserve the rights of the state in the meandered lake beds, of which a great number exist in northern Iowa.

Des Moines, Jan. 27.—Senate.—Hayward introduced a bill abolishing days of grace; Bishop introduced a bill to make debts offsets against all property assessments instead of moneys and credits alone; Courtright a bill to authorize health insurance; Junkin to codify the collateral inheritance laws, and Lister to prohibit migratory divorcees. Appropriation bills were introduced for Cherokee, \$135,000; for the Soldiers' Orphans' Home at Davenport, \$75,000; for the state historical building, \$150,000 for the biennium and \$300,000 for the four years, and for the Benedict Home, \$10,000.

House.—N. E. Kendall moved to reconsider resolution he had made regarding petitions only being presented when subject to which they referred was under consideration. Motion carried and hereafter petitions may be presented at any time. Following are important bills introduced: By Boyesen, to appropriate \$33,100 to Girls' Industrial School at Mitchellville and \$47,450 to Boys' School at Eldora; by English, to appropriate \$10,000 to Benedict Home at Des Moines; by Hawk, for Torrens system of land registration; by Larrabee, to decrease width of highways from 66 to 50 feet; by Mordhorst, to permit steamboat companies to be sued in the same manner as railroads; by Nagle, to prevent ball playing on Sunday; by Barker, to remove circle from ballot; by Langsaw of Clinton, to pension judges who have served four terms and are 75 years of age.

Kitchener Authorizes Boer Corps. Pretoria, Jan. 27.—Lord Kitchener has authorized General Vilonet, a surrendered burgher, to raise an additional Boer corps of 1,500 men.

General Vilonet has written a letter to ex-President Steyn warning the latter of his intention to form such a corps, and adding that the Boers in the concentration camps are tired of the useless struggle, and are determined to help the British end it.

River beds are supplied with springs and sheets of water.

Brevity is the soul of wit; wit is the levity of the soul.

THE LEGISLATURE.

SAYS THE SOUL MAY DIE.

Parkhurst Overrides the Presbyterian Theory of Immortality.

New York, Jan. 28.—In a sermon on "Immortality," the Rev. Dr. Charles L. Parkhurst, in the Madison Square Presbyterian church declared against the popular evangelical belief that all souls are immortal. He expressly gave it as his opinion that the Scriptures do not teach immortality of the soul from death, and that the soul must be taken care of in this life else it will perish utterly, either at the death of the body or after a longer or shorter period of the life beyond the grave. Dr. Parkhurst said in part: "There is nothing in the Scriptures or in things that encourage us to feel that a soul can be kept from dying any more than a body, unless it is taken care of. There is no warrant from the Bible or from nature for supposing that a soul carries with itself a policy of insurance against its own eventual obliteration."

The sermon is attracting some attention owing to the fact that most Presbyterians adhere to a belief in the doctrine of immortality of the soul.

THRICE DECLINES OFFICE

SCHLEY REITERATES HE WILL NOT ENTER POLITICS.

Hero of Santiago Given a Magnificent Reception by the People of Chicago.

Chicago, Jan. 27.—Rear Admiral W. S. Schley Saturday thrice declared that he had had no intention of entering politics. His remarks were calculated to set at rest for all time the political ambitions which some of his admirers have entertained for him. He said that no office, however high, would tempt him to jeopardize the love which the people of this country have expressed for him.

The day for the admiral was a round of receptions at each of which he expressed his gratitude for tokens of esteem and approbation.

The demonstrations reached their climax in the banquet given in his honor by the Hamilton club in the banquet hall of the Auditorium. Approximately 650 guests were present. Admiral Schley arose amid applause, and after thanking the members of the Hamilton club for the welcome accorded him, said:

"If I, in my long career of forty-five years have done anything that is worthy of your applause and approval then my satisfaction is complete.

"I want only to say that I am simply a sailor and that I have served you in storm and in calm, in sunshine and in bad weather, from pole to pole and from sun to sun. The only motive of action has always been 'my country and my people.' (Applause.) I desire to say most emphatically that I have no desire to be other than a sailor. I have no aspiration for any civil office, however high it may be. (Applause.) My one ambition has been to serve you faithfully, loyally, devotedly (applause) and if I have succeeded in doing that, the measure of my ambition is full, and my only ambition is that I may retain for the rest of the years that may be vouchsafed me, your love, your esteem and your respect. (Cheers.) I would not care to jeopardize that by seeking or accepting any office where I should be condemned to follow always rather than to remain in the one profession that I have chosen where there are occasionally opportunities to lead. (Applause.) That I want to say to you all from the bottom of my heart and with absolute earnestness of meaning."

FRANCE AND VENEZUELA.

In Danger of War Over Castro's Stubbornness.

Willemstad, Island of Curacao, Jan. 25.—In spite of the protests made by the French consul here, President Castro has sustained the action of the Venezuelan authorities at La Guayra who refused to permit M. Secretat, Jr., of Bordeaux, to land, although the government had assured the consul that the traveler might embark. It is held by the authorities that while the French line steamship St. Laurent, on which M. Secretat was a passenger, was at Port-de-France, island of Martinique, or at the island of Trinidad when the St. Laurent touched at those islands; but was off the Venezuelan coast, on board the revolutionists' steamship Libertador. All the passengers of the St. Laurent, and notably the secretary of the Spanish legation at Caracas, assert that the behavior of M. Secretat was always most correct, and that he did not see General Matos. It is claimed that this incident makes it necessary for the French government to take the steps necessary to cause French citizens to be respected, and it is believed that the French cruisers Tase and Sachet, now at Fort-de-France, will receive orders to go to La Guayra. The French cruiser D'Estrees is at Carupano, a seaport town in the state of Bermudez, Venezuela.

Attempt to Assassinate King George.

Vienna, Jan. 25.—The Neue Frele Presse prints an unconfirmed story of an attempt to assassinate King George of Greece. According to this report, his majesty was walking in the park at Phalarion, when a man, brandishing a knife, rushed upon him. A park inspector jumped between them and received a stab intended for the king. The would-be assassin was arrested.

Postage stamps are egotistical when they get stuck on themselves.

Oil Found Near Peoria.

Peoria, Jan. 27.—The Peoria Mineral company have struck oil on their ground across the river from the city. Although the well is not a gusher, it is flowing in quantities that promise a gusher within the next few feet. The well was sunk 675 feet and first a gusher of salt water was struck. Then the flow of oil began. The announcement of the find has caused considerable excitement among the business men of the city. The company owns 1,000 acres of land and is incorporated under the laws of Maine.

Overwork kills fewer men than excessive leisure.

SENSATION FOR RAILWAYS

INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION MAKES A REPORT.

Declares the Interstate Commerce Law Cannot Be Enforced, But Has No Remedy.

Washington, Jan. 24.—The annual report of the Interstate Commerce Commission, which was transmitted to Congress yesterday, renews the declaration made in previous reports that in its present condition the act to regulate commerce cannot be enforced. As to remedial legislation, the commission renews the statement made in its previous annual report, that it "has little to suggest and nothing new to propose."

The feature of the report is the almost sensational report of the relations existing between the railways and comparatively few heavy shippers. Referring to the commission's recent investigation into the amount of packing house products and of grain and grain products, the report says: "The facts therein developed are of such a character that no thoughtful person can contemplate them with indifference. That the leading traffic officials of many of the principal railway lines, men occupying high positions and charged with the most important duties, should deliberately violate the statute law of the land, and in some cases agree with each other to do so, that it should be thought necessary by them to bookkeeping as to obliterate evidence of the transactions; that hundreds of thousands of dollars should be paid in unlawful rebates to a few great packing houses; that the business of railroad transportation should to such an extent be conducted in open disregard of law, must be surprising and offensive to all right-minded persons. Equally startling at least is the fact that the owners of these packing houses, men whose names are known throughout the commercial world, should seemingly be so eager to augment their gains with enormous amounts of these rebates which they receive in open defiance of a federal statute."

That there are palliating circumstances under which railway traffic officials act, the commission is not unkind, and the opinion is expressed that existing laws should be so amended that railway managers who desire to observe them can do so without risk of sacrificing their property.

The application of the remedy; the report says, is fraught with dangers to the public, and it should not be applied unless the public is fully protected. In view of those great combinations, which have been formed and are now forming, by which railway competition which upon the present theory of this law is greatly relied upon to secure just and reasonable rates and facilities, will be largely eliminated, some method should be provided by which the government can exercise in fact that control over railway rates and operations which courts without number have asserted that it possesses and which many persons suppose that it now exerts. The commission believes that the whole law should be revised upon some correct theory and some workable basis. In view of the gross violations of the act, the commission suggests that if it is not possible to amend this law in its more essential features, it ought at least to be possible to deal with those coercive features of the act which are intended to prevent practices of this character.

WILL TIE TO THE PLATFORM.

Democrats of the House Do Not Formulate Policy.

Washington, Jan. 25.—The democratic members of the house of representatives met in caucus in the hall of the house last evening and after a short but spirited contest adopted resolutions declaring that they were without power to promulgate a platform of principles for the party, owing to the binding character of the party platform heretofore regularly made at a national convention. The contest occurred over a substitute resolution proposed by Representative Henry of Texas, more specifically declaring it to be the duty of every democratic representative to adhere to the national platform until another democratic convention adopts a new platform.

The caucus was the outgrowth of animated discussion among the democratic members ever since the present session of congress began, the chief issue being as to the extent to which the Kansas City platform should be reaffirmed or should be superseded by a new declaration of policy.

PAID \$5,000,000 FOR THEM.

Cost of Danish West Indies Informally Known.

Washington, Jan. 25.—Following the invariable rule in such cases, the state department officials decline to make public any of the details of the purchase of the Danish islands, so that it is not possible to state positively the price to be paid, though this is believed to be in the neighborhood of \$5,000,000. It is known also that Denmark has abandoned the position she was inclined to occupy toward the conservation of the political rights of the inhabitants of the islands, and leaves the United States a free hand to deal with them, without pledge of American citizenship or of free trade privileges.

Washington, Jan. 25.—The treaty of cession of the Danish West Indies islands from Denmark to the United States was signed at the state department yesterday by Secretary Hay and Constantine Brun, the Danish minister. The treaty will be submitted to the senate for ratification immediately.

Gen. Scheepers Executed.

New York, Jan. 23.—It has been discovered that through a cable error an Associated Press dispatch announced that the death sentence upon Commander Scheepers, of the Boer army, had been confirmed by General Kitchener, and that he would be executed next Saturday. The fact is that he was executed on last Saturday, January 18.

Lack of sense is too often charged up to lack of confidence.

Georgia has twenty counties in which saloons are permitted and 117 counties in which the sale of liquor is prohibited.