

Minnesota Historical Society

MINNESOTA

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THE TOMAHAWK.

Published in behalf of, and to secure the welfare of the Indians of the United States.

"Truth before Favor."

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THE TOMAHAWK.

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Senator Moses E. Clapp In Accord With The People Of Minnesota.

That Senator Moses E. Clapp has always been in accord with public sentiment, and that his votes in the U. S. Senate have been recorded as a majority of the people of the State would have registered their own opinions, is a fact clearly borne out by the official records.

In the broad struggle which always has existed, and exists today, between the efforts of the few to



FOR UNITED STATES SENATOR, MOSES E. CLAPP.

control the government in their interests, and the welfare of the many for whom government was really instituted, a struggle which formed an important part of those great policies which came to be known as "The Roosevelt Principles," the Senator took an active part, and was an advocate of those measures which became laws, and which were approved by the majority of the voters.

The first thing of importance taken up by Senator Clapp, when he entered the Senate, was the effort to amend the Constitution, so that U. S. Senators should be elected by a direct vote of the people. He was an uncompromising champion of this amendment and the first U. S. Senator from Minnesota to make speeches in favor of popular elections of Senators.

During his present term, on July 31st, 1913, Senator Clapp made this statement on the floor of the Senate:

"During my comparatively short service in this body, I recall the plea I made for the right of the American people to elect Senators of the United States, by direct vote, and I was met with such scorn and derision by members of this body at that time, that one distinguished Senator could show his contempt in no other way than by arising in his place and leaving this chamber."

Passed The Anti-Rebate Bill.

In 1903, Senator Clapp, as a member of the great committee on Interstate Commerce, had charge of the anti-rebate and anti-discrimination bills, and on February 3rd of that year he called up and put through the anti-rebate bill. This law was attacked, and had to run the gauntlet of the courts, but was sustained at every point.

Subsequently nearly all the suits brought against combinations were brought under this law. In 1906, when there was such a protracted struggle in the Senate over the Hepburn bill, which finally gave the Interstate Commerce Commission the right to fix rates, Clapp and Dolliver were the leading advocates of this legislation and its passage was largely due to the efforts of Senator Clapp.

Again in 1910, when a great effort was made to repeal railroad legislation, Senators Clapp and Cummins brought in the minority report condemning the action of the majority of the committee, and pointed out the reactionary features of the proposed legislation. In the end, every item they opposed was stricken out, except the one providing for a Commerce Court, and that was repealed at the following session.

Opposed Free Trade With Canada.

When the attempt was made in 1911, to subject the farmers of Minnesota to free trade with China, Clapp was a vigorous opponent of the bill, speaking several times in opposition.

Meanwhile he had risen to the position of Chairman of the committee on Interstate Commerce, and about the first thing he did was to offer and pass a resolution providing for an investigation into trusts and corporations engaged in interstate commerce. This was followed by a far-reaching and exhaustive series of hearings and investigation lasting more than a year, and which finally resulted in the passage of the Federal Trade Commission Bill and the Clayton Anti-trust Act.

A Historic Investigation.

All through the summer months of 1912, when Congress was in session, and when it was in recess, Clapp, as chairman of a special committee to inquire into the campaign methods, and the contributions employed in the presidential and congressional elections of 1904-1908, and the primaries of 1912, conducted one of the most sweeping inquiries in the history of Congress. He sent subpoenas to men who have played big politics in a big way during the past decade, including a former President of the United States, and a former candidate for that office; United States Senators and Ex-senators; Members and Ex-members of Congress; also men most prominent in the business and financial world, including the elder J. Pierpont Morgan, John D. Archbold, head of the Standard Oil Company, Thomas F. Ryan, Ogden Mills, Chauncey M. Depew, W. R. Hearst, William Flinn, Roger Sullivan, John D. Weeks, now a presidential candidate, Postmaster General Hitchcock, and former Secretary of the Treasury Cortelyou, and hundreds of other witnesses.

Clapp's Bill Passes Senate.

Even before the investigation closed, Senator Clapp presented a bill, which provides that it should be unlawful for anybody, person, firm, committee or corporation, to send money from one state to another for campaign purposes, except for traveling and ordinary expenses of Speakers, thus cutting out the large contributions which have in times gone by been sent from New York City to help carry "The Doubtful States." This bill has passed the Senate of the United States. Another bill by Senator Clapp forbids any Senator, or member of the House, to solicit campaign funds for himself or any political organization.

Active For Armor Plate Plant.

In the movement for the erec-

tion of a government armor plate plant and thus relieve the question of National Defense from the influence of private gain, thereby releasing the hold that the armor plate and the steel trust have had on Uncle Sam for years, Clapp has been active from the start until the bill passed the Senate. It was his vote in the Committee on Naval Affairs that decided the deadlock as between a government plant or allowing the trusts to keep on, although after the bill passed the armor plate people immediately offered to sell their products to the government at \$30 a ton less than the price they have been receiving. Clapp has been active in reporting out of committee the Child Labor Bill, the Spanish American War Widows' Bill, and is an ardent supporter of a civil service retirement measure beginning with employees of the U. S. Postal Service.

A Change Of Policy In The Indian Office.

During the past winter a decided and noticeable change in favor of the Chippewas at least has taken place in the Indian office at Washington; there has not been so much quibbling over technicalities, and every Indian has not been treated as though he was familiar with the legal questions which would require attorneys to overcome.

During the past winter the Chippewas in general have had no cause, so far as can be learned, to find fault with their treatment so far as the Washington Indian office is concerned.

It has always been the field service where the principal sources of complaints have arisen, and it has been in the Indian office at Washington that it was expected that these complaints, or their causes, would be remedied.

The Van Metre Bill Referred To A Sub-Committee.

The Van Metre bill which Representative Steenerson introduced in Congress to give probate courts of Minnesota jurisdiction over Indian estates upon this reservation, was referred to a sub-committee of the House of Representatives.

With the strong opposition there is to it in its present form it is very doubtful if it can be passed at the present session of Congress if at all.

The Chippewa delegates now at Washington will try and secure some amendments to the bill as in its present form it aims to legislate out of both the United States and the courts of Minnesota some cases that are now pending there.

THE RIGHT OF NOMINATION BILL.

It is learned that the Right of Nomination Bill is still before Congress in a more modified form than it was when introduced first by Senator Johnson of South Dakota.

The Indians who are still at Washington, and throughout the country generally, are urging the bill, and if they will continue to keep it up as persistently as they are now doing, their efforts will eventually be rewarded, and all THE TOMAHAWK can say is, keep on with the good work.

The Steenerson School Bill Favorably Reported.

Representative Steenerson caused the school bill, which he recently introduced in Congress, to be favorably reported by the House Indian committee.

A protest was made against the bill by the delegates who are now at Washington to both the Indian office and Mr. Steenerson, which were published in a recent issue of THE TOMAHAWK. The Indian office immediately took up the matter with Supt. Hinton here, but had not received a reply from him prior to the agreement to make a favorable report on the bill.

The bill proposes to take from the Chippewas the celebration grounds here, and although Mr. Steenerson led the delegates to believe he would take into consideration the delegation's protests, he failed to do this.

It is quite probable that further efforts will be made by the delegation to defeat the bill entirely, or have it referred to the members of this reservation to vote upon for their approval or disapproval.

NOTICE.
We now have the agency for the Detroit Steam Laundry, persons wishing to send laundry to Detroit please leave it at the store.
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Some Minnesota Congressmen Ignore General Council Representatives.

Whenever a tribe of Indians appoint delegates to visit Washington for the purpose of attending to tribal matters, they do not expect that the work of these delegates will be set aside or ignored at the request of persons either of the tribe or otherwise, but unfortunately this has been the case during the past winter.

There have been several matters of legislation which effected the Chippewas of Minnesota exclusively, but the Chippewa delegates had apparently no more influence with some Congressmen than the "kickers" from this reservation.

It is suggested that hereafter whenever the Chippewas send delegates to Washington, those who send them should protest violently against the voices of two or three persons receiving any recognition, and especially where those persons are holding on to their rights here by a thread.

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"Indian Day" Set Aside By New York Governor To Pay Tribute to 'First Citizens'.

Albany, N. Y.—A proclamation has been issued by Governor Whitman, designating May 13 as "American Indian Day" for observance by the descendants of the first Americans in memorial and honor of their forefathers. The governor invited the attention of the citizens of the state "to the history, the social institutions of these people and especially to the present and future needs of the 5,000 reservation Indians now resident in this state."

The day will be celebrated by Indians throughout the country, but as far as known, New York is the first state officially to recognize the proposed observance. Exercises will be held in Indian schools and reservations, and preparations have been made in numerous white schools and communities for considering the mutual interests, friendship and destiny of the two races.

The idea of celebrating Indian day was adopted by the national conference of Indians in Denver in 1913. The date for the celebration—the second Saturday in May—was not fixed, however, until the Lawrence, Kansas, conference last October.

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