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WEATHER FOR TODAY.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—Forecast for Sunday: Minnesota—Generally fair; colder at night; southerly winds, becoming northwesterly.

Wisconsin—Generally fair; warmer; brisk southerly winds, increasing.

North Dakota—Threatening weather and light rain or snow, probably clearing Sunday afternoon; colder, northwesterly winds.

South Dakota—Generally fair; colder; northwesterly winds.

Montana—Generally fair; colder; west to northwest winds.

TEMPERATURES.

Place.	Tem.	Place.	Tem.
Buffalo	34-36	Cleveland	36-36
Boston	44-50	Montreal	34-40
Cheyenne	36-48	New York	45-52
Chicago	34-32	Pittsburg	38-44
Cincinnati	36-42		

DAILY MEANS.

Barometer, 30.14; mean temperature, 28; relative humidity, 88; wind at 8 p. m., southeast; weather, clear; maximum temperature, 38; minimum temperature, 17; daily range, 21; amount of precipitation (rain and melted snow) in last twenty-four hours, 0.

Note—Barometer corrected for temperature and elevation. —P. F. Lyons, Observer.

War and Debt.

In the address delivered by Secretary Gage at Chicago last night there is one thought to which it is almost incredible that so few of our people pay attention. This is the vital relation between sound money and the ability of a nation to withstand attack or to assume an aggressive position in the world. It happens, strangely enough, that the most inveterate jingoes in the United States are also loudest in their advocacy of cheap money and in their opposition to the retirement of one dollar of legal tender notes. Now, the fact is that, in case of a possible war, which is being held up before the people daily as a near contingency, we should have the deadliest enemies in our own camp. Not all the ships and armies of a hostile nation could strike with such terrific effect as a weakness in the nation's credit.

The famous remark that "God is on the side of the heaviest battalions" can be paraphrased for present use by saying that military success is based upon the strong-box. The monarchs of Europe are intelligent enough to see this, and the first step which any of them takes for offense or defense is to see that there is accumulated a sufficient treasure to put an army into the field and maintain it at a high effective. The government which is confronted with a state of war and has no resources at comamnd is in sorry plight. The nation which, in the same situation, is not only burdened with debt, but has already overtaxed or overstrained its credit, is in danger of defeat before a blow is struck.

A short time ago the question of a war with England over the Venezuela difference was one of days and hours. Today a majority of our representatives are counseling the annexation of Hawaii, on the ground that a war with some foreign power is an immediate probability. If the hands of congress were as loose as its tongue, war would be declared between the United States and Spain before the end of another week. Any such event would bring us to the test. We congratulate ourselves, with good cause, upon being the richest and most resourceful nation in the world. When the war tocsin sounds it is not the productiveness of the soil or the riches of the future that can be discounted. The call is for ready cash.

Immense amounts of money, many times greater than ever before, in these days of costly armaments and ships of war worth from $3,000,000 to $5,000,000 apiece, must be raised instantly. The power of taxation can be relied upon to pay debts, but not to collect war resources. Since the cash in the treasury is already pledged for other purposes and the gold reserve is necessarily held as security for note issues, we would have to borrow, and our first loans would be measured by hundreds of millions. From whom must this money be obtained? From the banks, from capitalists, from the possessors of tangible wealth, moved partly, it is true, by patriotism, but requiring also some assurance that their advances would be returned. A declaration of war must be accompanied by the call for a loan and the issue of bonds.

The response to this depends entirely, in any nation of the world, upon the credit of the government, upon its scrupulous fidelity in the discharge of all past obligations and the belief of its citizens that such policy will be continued. In our own case the outstanding greenbacks, mere promises to pay debts contracted by a forced loan from the people to carry on a war that ended more than thirty years ago, stand like a menacing army, every note a rifle muzzle pointed at the nation's heart. All this balancing of standards, all this denunciation of the nation's creditors, all this unwillingness to take a single step toward the payment of old debts, would war against the success of a government loan and fight for the cause of our enemies.

We sneer at the weakness of bankrupt Spain. That weakness is desperately real, but it would come home to us in case another war loan had to be added to the debts that the people of the United States are willing to pay and mean to pay, but whose discharge is interfered with and even made uncertain by the action of demagogues in congress and out of it. This country, in spite of its new ships, and notwithstanding its millions of men and its wondrous wealth, is in no position to invite a war or to contemplate such a contingency without the most harassing anxiety. It is not Hawaii or Cuba or battleships or "a strong foreign policy" or the valiant words of bloviating politicians that would fit us for the field, but ready money or the sure ability to raise it in practically unlimited quantities on demand.

If we want to fortify ourselves so that we may hold our own and maintain the dignity and position of the United States among the nations, the first object of care must be the nation's finances and the nation's credit. Every man who hesitates at this, who counsels procrastination, who opposes the payment of debts by the retirement of national fiat money, is helping to disarm his country in the presence of a hostile foe. War and debt linked together spell disaster. If we really apprehend any attack from without, or the necessity of asserting ourselves at the possible cost of a foreign war, we need a full money chest more than we do seaboard fortifications or a squadron of ships. It is not merely financial intelligence, but true patriotism that calls for currency reform.

"The First American."

It was not a desire to coin a sounding phrase that moved Lowell to name Abraham Lincoln "the first American." It was not his habit to sound unmerited praise or to make flattering estimate, and his estimate of Lincoln was the fruit of his analytic and critical judgment. No other man before him, who reached great prominence, was so directly the product of the soil. No other one developed the qualities that make up character under an environment so native. Old world influences in education, in social surroundings, shaped the development of others with equal or greater powers; but all that Lincoln was and became was as native as the trees and flowers amid which he grew. It is this that makes him "the first American."

He who sees a design in the movements of humanity can perceive more than a coincidence in the fact that the same day of the same month and year gave to this world two children destined to great work along the same line. Darwin, born in England, and Lincoln, in the log hut in Kentucky, became the great emancipators of their generation. The work the one was born to do was to free men from the shackles of ecclesiasticism; the other to strike from the limbs of a race the gyves of slavery. The one worked to overthrow dogma and superstition, that men might know and appreciate the absolute reign of law; the other lived and worked to bring equality to men under that law that knows no color line nor product of adventitious circumstance. When the generations shall have passed away which still feel the influence of the homelier qualities of Lincoln, that will be his title deed to enduring fame.

One Reform Killed.

After all the outcry in Republican papers and among Republican political leaders about the necessity of pension reform, it appears that nothing whatever is to be done at the present session. Even the terrible necessities under which the federal treasury is now laboring, with swollen expenditures and a deficit either stationary or increasing, cannot induce Republican congressmen to vote to cut off the most indefensible item of pension appropriations. The house committee has acted adversely upon the bills introduced to prohibit the payment of pensions to soldiers' widows in the case of marriages taking place after the passage of the act.

The abuse at which this was aimed is notorious. An examination of the pension rolls of the past shows that this provision has been utilized to saddle upon the taxpayers of the country the maintenance of a large number of designing persons who have no valid claim upon it whatever. No pension is more properly paid or more willingly given than that which is received by the woman who bore her share, not infrequently the heaviest portion, of the burdens and sacrifices of the war. It was by the women who gave their husbands to their country, as well as by regiments and battalions of soldiery, that the Rebellion was fought to a successful close. These women are entitled to the remembrance and support of a grateful nation.

But the young women who choose today to marry war veterans have no claim whatever upon the pension fund. If they were not mere children at the time of the war, they at least had no share in the personal sacrifices or achievements of the men with whom they now enter into a matrimonial alliance. They are not entitled to one cent from the federal treasury. The facts, as exhibited in the records of the pension office, show that this pensioning of soldiers' widows indiscriminately has created a regular traffic by which women contract marriages in order that they may secure a life support from their husband's pensions.

To permit or encourage this practice is neither patriotism nor morality. The whole system, from whichever side it may be viewed, is inexcusably vicious and ought to be wiped out. One cannot even imagine what argument could be framed in its defense. How any congressman, be he full of regard for the war veteran or be he the veriest demagogue, could defend the continuance of a pension practice that is without merit in theory and has proved an abomination in fact, must be left to the imagination. We are informed by the news dispatches that a committee majority takes this position, and that this most just and elementary of all possible pension reforms has been stifled at its inception. It is evident that the people of this country must be still further burdened with taxation; that they must suffer yet more from deficits, and that universal popular indignation must be aroused before congress will consent to lop away a single branch of the vast growth of abuses by which our pension laws have been surrounded, until justice, equity and patriotism itself are choked to death.

The Fame of Drinkle.

Republicanism, as Mr. Hanna informed the president, may still be in existence in Ohio, but the new senator need not think he has but to raise his thumb and look under it to find the party. When Mr. Hanna sent his famous telegram, he reckoned without his host. He knew that Kurtz was cowed; McKisson and his cohorts were in retreat, and Foraker was trying to get his knife back into his boot without being detected. But there was Clay Drinkle, the Hon. Clay Drinkle, of Lancaster, old-fashioned, red and sticky Clay Drinkle. He was unconquered and unconquerable.

After the battle the leaders assemble to listen to pleas for harmony. The peace treaty falls from the lips of the chairman of the committee on resolutions in limpid sweetness. On Bushnell, Hanna and McKinley the syrup drips, but no flies are attracted to the Hon. Joseph Benson Foraker. Then arises the Hon. Clay Drinkle in his wrath. Like the Hon. Hornblende Quinkley of former days, he rushes to the rescue, throws down the gage of battle and does the other things appropriate to the occasion. By his valor he saves the day, and lo the name of Joseph Benson leads all the rest.

So when the story of Ohio's greatness is told; when the names of Sherman and McKinley and Comptroller Dawes are inscribed on the scroll of fame, there, above and below and all around them, poster letters in all the colors of the solar spectrum will spell the magic name of Drinkle, the Hon. Clay of Lancaster.

Productive Capacity.

It is more than ten years since the clearer-sighted among our manufacturers discovered that their branch of the industries had been so stimulated by the prospective profits of the policy of fostering that capacity to produce had outrun capacity to consume. It was from them that the demand came for untaxed raw material in order that they might make and send their products out into foregin markets, and be able to meet the competition there of rivals whose materials were unburdened. This condition had been brought about largely by the constant invention of machinery, reducing the cost of production by decreasing the labor cost and increasing the output of the labor used. Thirteen years ago it was asserted by John Sargent that the factories of the country, running full time, could produce in eight months all that the consuming power of the country could use in twelve months. The next step, he said, must be either access to foreign markets or a diminished activity. It was not until 1894 that raw material was relieved of any part of the tax burden, and the result was soon shown in the rise of our exports of manufactures from 18 to 26 per cent of the entire exports last year, and to 30 per cent since last August.

But machinery is not the only factor in production. Behind the machine is the man, and if the machine is not worked to its full capacity it is because the man is not fully employed. During times of financial distress, those periods of healthful reaction from feverish energy, we hear much of the unemployed. But there is no time or condition of trade when the productive capacity of every one is fully utilized. During the days of the boom in this city, when all activities were strained, it was no uncommon sight to see a fringe of idle men around the place where workers were laying the foundations for some building. In no condition of the times, good or bad, can one fail to be impressed with the number of idlers met upon the streets. It is not difficult to separate them from those who are bent on business. Their number is greater when panics diminish the speed of the processes of production, but not nearly so much greater as is portrayed. Carroll D. Wright says that the panic of 1893 decreased the general volume of business only between 6 and 10 per cent.

It is interesting to speculate what the conditions would be were every person, capable of work, employed in some gainful, productive occupation. What would be the effect on wages, on prices of products, on consumption? What would be the sociological results? The idler is a burden. He must be fed and clothed and sheltered at some one's cost. What would result from the throwing off of this burden? And can such a condition come? Have we reached a passage of productiveness, through the aid of invention, when the idle must increase in number, because what is produced cannot be consumed? If one man can make the same number of shoes that five were required to make formerly, must not four men go idle? It would seem so at first blush, but the number of employed has steadily increased as machinery has increased productiveness.

Mr. Wright has tried to draw from the scanty statistics of the unemployed some conclusions that are interesting. After making all reasonable deductions, he finds the number of unemployed in the leading lines of manufacture—that is, the equivalent number of those without work for the entire census year 1889—to have been 346,447. The average number of employes in these industries was 4,712,622. Had the productive capacity of the establishments been worked to its maximum, it would have given continuous employment to 6,137,396 persons, leaving an excess of the possible over the average of 1,424,774. Had this excess been so engaged, the average value of the products of such labor in the census year would have been $12,900,808,373 instead of $9,372,437,283. There were 12,690,152 families in the United States in 1890. Give to their workers labor that would have increased their capacity to consume $1 a week, and the full productive capacity of the country would have been balanced by its capacity to consume. It is along these lines that effort for amelioration of conditions must run, the relief from burdens that diminish consumptive power, resulting in increased occupation and a higher standard of living.

It Is All Clear Now.

The New England cotton operative is paid by the "cut." This is a piece of goods, usually about forty-five yards long. The price is 16 cents a "cut" for prints and a little less, under the recent reduction, than 25 cents for ginghams. A smart weaver will tend eight print or six gingham looms, and will average six "cuts" a week on each loom. For weaving 2,160 yards of prints he is paid $7.68, and for weaving 1,620 yards of ginghams he is paid $9. His labor costs his employer 3.5 mills a yard for print, and 5.5 mills a yard for ginghams. These facts make some things plain that were before incomprehensible. One can understand now why it is that, each time a congress assembles that has a bit of tariff tinkering to do, delegations of cotton mill owners go down to Washington, not in tourists' sleepers, to beg congress to fix things up so that they may be able to pay their dear working people compensation that will enable them to keep up that dignity of station that befits an American artisan.

We can now realize how this munificent compensation enables the operative to live in those neatly painted modern cottages, with chromos hanging on the wall, and be greeted on his return home at eventide by a gaily dressed little daughter who trips from her piano, visible through the open window, down the paved walk, the ribbons floating back in streamers from her dress as she runs, while in the open door stands the trimly dressed housewife waiting to give him smiling welcome. For authority for the first statement consult any old volume of "Tariff Hearings." For the latter, consult the colored pictures sent out by the Home Market club, of Boston, during the campaign of 1892, to illustrate the happy conditions of the American artisan's life "under, etc."

Presidents by Direct Vote.

In the Forum for November, John G. Carlisle discussed the dangers that lurk in our method of choosing a president, a topic that has been intermittently prominent ever since the amendment in 1804 met the particular emergency raised by the Jefferson-Burr contest. It became acute again when the house elected Adams over Jackson, who had a majority of the popular vote, and again in 1877, when the electoral commission was devised to save the country from a condition that was rapidly moving toward civil war. After the settlement of each case the interest in the subject has subsided until another crisis brought it to the front. Any presidential election may again bring about a contest, and the condition of public opinion may be at such a time so excited as to plunge the country into armed conflict. Mr. Carlisle believes that the time to prevent such a danger is when no state of public excitement tends to prevent its calm discussion.

He proposes as a remedy the practical election of the president and vice president by popular votes, abolishing the fiction of an electoral college, but at the same time preserving the autonomy of the states. Virtually it provides for minority representation. Mr. Carlisle meets the federal argument of the incapacity of the voters to make a fit selection for those offices with the counter and incontrovertible statement that "every argument against it (election by direct vote) is necessarily an argument against the right or capacity of the people to govern themselves; for, if they have not the right, or are not competent, to choose the official who executes the laws, they cannot have the right, or the capacity, to choose who shall make them." The direct vote, he says, "is the honest, democratic and American method of ascertaining the choice of the people."

He sketches the main features of his plan in the following outline: "A constitutional amendment providing simply that the president and the vice president shall be chosen by the people of the several states voting by ballot, on a day fixed by congress, which shall be the same throughout the United States; that the electors in each state shall have the qualifications required for electors of the most numerous branch of the state legislature; that each state shall be entitled to a number of votes to be called presidential or electoral votes—equal to the number of its senators and representatives in congress; and that, in ascertaining the result of the election, each person voted for shall be entitled to have counted in his favor a number of the presidential or electoral votes of each state corresponding to the proportion of the popular vote of the state received by him in such state."

Briefly summarized his arguments for the plan are: The preservation of the autonomy of the states as now established; the elimination of the disturbing effect in conventions and campaigns of the "doubtful" or "pivotal" states; the representation of minorities, preventing the present anomaly of making them actually vote for the candidates opposed by them; the necessity it would impose of securing as full a vote in a "safe" as in a "doubtful" state; the prevention of such controversies as arose in 1876-7. He urges the adoption, with his plan, of the plurality rule, thus obviating the risks inevitable in elections by the house of representatives. It is not only because of the disturbance and agitation such an event causes, but because no executive officer should be chosen by the legislature. "That the president should not appoint the members of the house of representatives is not more apparent than that the members of the house should not elect the president." He foresees in the future the imminent possibility of failures to secure the majority of electoral votes now required, and resulting turmoil. In fact several presidents have been "minority presidents." Lincoln received but 39 per cent of the popular vote, and there is no good reason why a plurality should not elect. The scheme favored by Mr. Carlisle is identical with that which The Globe has advocated for several years past.

Mr. Mason's Folly.

From the easy, airy way in which Mr. Mason proposes to drape the responsibility for a Cuban war about his massive chest development, it is evident that the Illinois senator has neglected to look over the spring fashion plates. War responsibilities are out of style, and anyway it is doubtful if such an ornament would prove becoming to the bellicose senator from the city of Chicago.

Mr. Mason seems to think the responsibility for a war is something that can be slipped on and off like an old shoe; that it may be a sort of jeweled order to dangle from a broad ribbon on state occasions, or perhaps a domino costume covered with spangle stars and embroidered with large yellow sunflowers. If that is the case, some of his friends ought to point out, gently but firmly, his error to the commander-in-chief of the conversational war that is being waged against Spain.

There are men who have assumed personal responsibility for war, and some of them have their names printed in large type in primary histories. But the remarks that follow are not always complimentary. Mr. Mason has no need to seek everlasting fame and glory by such uncertain means. When Washington, Lincoln, and even Luetgert, are forgotten, school boys will still lisp the name of William Mason, of Chicago.

If Mr. Mason is wise he will have his last spring overcoat pressed and cleaned, and try to worry along with that. It is dangerous to depend on garments that may not fit.

New Jersey has had a narrow escape from martial law. The son of a millionaire scratched his desk at Orange and was suspended. The board of education imposed a fine, the town took sides, and it looked like war until the child's papa drew his check for 25 cents, when the sun came out again.

A decidedly novel innovation in doctors' bills comes from staid old Poughkeepsie. A physician up there sued a young lady for a bill of $63. She said he called very often when she needed no medical attention, and "for time lost in making the doctor feel at home" she put in a counter claim for $100.

It is stated that in Alaska when a gambler doesn't play on the "square" he is promptly blacklisted. This is a slight variation from the Montana style in the '80s. When a Montana gambler didn't play "fair" he was promptly shot.

Having referred to the president as "a low politician," Dupuy de Lome may as well get himself into a position to be kicked. The public may agree with this particular sentiment a year or so later, but it won't tolerate its expression by any Spanish don.

A bill has been introduced at Trenton, N. J., providing that all single men shall pay $2 a year tax. Why not give the girls the privilege of "popping" the question, and fine them, too, for remaining single?

There is talk of electing Anson a member of the Chicago council. Must the gallant leader of so many fierce battles associate with such riff-raff as Chicago aldermen?

The Chicago Times-Herald and Inter Ocean are quarreling as to which best represents the Republican party. Whichever does should be everlastingly sorry for it.

The newest business woman of the day has twenty pockets in her dress. The young man of the day will never dare propose to a woman with that many pockets.

Joseph Leiter has his troubles, too, outside of the wheat pit. A woman is writing him letters of love because of his "bravery" in cornering the leading cereal.

The paper manufacturers of America have formed a trust to tax the newspaper and book readers of the country $4,000,000 a year. This is merely on paper.

Armaments and Pensions.

From the New York Journal.

The accompanying diagram indicates the relation between our pension expenditures and the military expenses of the great powers of Europe:

Italian army, $54,000,000.

Austrian army, $70,000,000.

British army, $90,000,000.

German army, $120,000,000.

French army, $138,000,000.

Russian army, $142,000,000.

U. S. pensioners, $150,000,000.

This comparison does not show the full extent to which our military burdens exceed those of the staggering nations of the old World, for in addition to our army of pensioners we have to support another army of soldiers. If the cost of army, navy and pensions for all countries were combined it would be found that the American expenditures for warlike purposes were by far the heaviest in the world.

ROADS TO THE YUKON

HALF DOZEN SCHEMES BEING AIRED IN WASHINGTON

Some Promoters Are Even Sanguine of Having Uncle Sam Again Try His Hand at Building a Railway and Turning It Over to a Private Corporation.

Washington Bureau St. Paul Globe, Corcoran Building.

Special to The St. Paul Globe.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The senate committee on public lands is having a long siege with matters pertaining to Alaskan affairs. Several Minnesota interests are involved in the general bill to provide terms and conditions for rights of way, terminal facilities and rights of navigation. Col. W. S. King, an old-time promoter, and who was once a lively member of congress from Minnesota, has just returned from Canada, where he has been conferring with government officials and sounding them on the proposition of making some international regulations respecting transportation companies.

As matters stand before the public lands committee, no less than thirteen different concerns are asking for rights of way. Several of them have surveyed routes, and the Minnesota company, of which George A. Brackett is at the head, has a large force of men on the ground at work. It was said this afternoon that unless some steps were taken to regulate matters serious trouble could not be avoided between rival companies. It has therefore been suggested that the United States government, providing Canada accepts terms and agrees on conditions, build a road into the Klondike country, and, after having completed it to a point where it will be ready for equipment, sell or lease to the person, firm or corporation that will give the most for it.

It is said such a policy would be for the best interests of all concerned. If a general bill, such as is now under consideration, is passed, granting indiscriminate rights, it will result in a great rush toward the Klondike and commencement of a half dozen routes. It is not known that this scheme of the government building a road will prevail, but it is strongly supported by practical men.

A story current here today that James J. Hill will build a road into Alaska is not verified.

KLONDIKE TAILINGS.

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 12.—A letter received from Sitka, Alaska, states that the gunboat Wheeling, which is stationed there, has been ordered to Skaguay.

Portland, Or., Feb. 12.—The steamer Oregon has arrived from Dyea and Skaguay and other Alaska ports. No news of importance was brought down.

ROTHSCHILD AGENT REPORTS.

He Talks of Alaska Gold and Denounces the All-Canadian Railroad Scheme.

CHICAGO, Feb. 12.—A special to the Chronicle from Hamilton, Ont., says: Shirley Onderdonk, formerly of Chicago, who has spent several months in Alaska, is in Hamilton on a business trip. Mr. Onderdonk was a member of Rothschild's prospecting party and has gathered considerable information about the gold fields. He spent considerable time on Douglas island, where the famous Treadwell mine, owned by the Rothschilds and D. O. Mills, is situated. Mr. Onderdonk says they have $21,000,000 of gold in sight.

He made a trip from Douglas island to Dyea and over the Chilkoot pass, and says it is a terrible country, especially in winter. When he was in camp the thermometer was 42 degrees below zero.

Speaking of the Mackenzie-Mann deal, Mr. Onderdonk said it was not a good route and that there would be a strong protest from the Klondike country when the people heard of the deal and the valuable concessions made to the contractors. He said the road would run from Telegraph creek to Teslin lake all right, but the difficulty was that the Stikeen river was blocked with ice until June and Telegraph creek was not easily reached. He also said that after crossing Teslin lake the Teslin river was not navigable the greater portion of the year, except for boats drawing very little water.

"My opinion," he said, "is that the best route at present is via Dyea and over the Chilkoot pass. During the summer many people like the Dalton trail from Pyramid Harbor." Mr. Onderdonk returns to Vancouver tomorrow.

RICH STRIKE IN THE KLONDIKE

Men Flocking From Dawson City to Locate Claims Along Henderson Creek.

PORTLAND, Or., Feb. 12.—J. L. Schroeder, of San Francisco, who left Dawson City Dec. 20, has arrived on the steamer Oregon. He reports that just before he left, rich strikes had been made on Henderson creek, about seventy miles southeast from Dawson, and that additional rich finds had been made on Bonanza and Hunker creeks.

He also reports that very rich quartz ledges have been located on Stewart river, and that a party of twenty, headed by an experienced mining engineer, had just left Dawson for that location. He said that the strike, on Henderson creek, was so rich as to cause quite a stampede to that locality.

PROHIBITION IN ALASKA

HANSBROUGH MEASURE CONSIDERED BY SENATE COMMITTEE

Under the Terms of His Amendment to the Pending Bill the Sale of Liquor in the Territory Is Forbidden—Question of Klondike Postal Service.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The senate committee on lands spent the entire day in remodeling the bill granting right of way to highways through Alaskan territory. The scope of the bill has been so extended as to make it practically a general measure covering public land problems in Alaska, and some of the matters considered are even outside of public land questions. Notably so is a proposition looking to the extension of the bonded districts for Canadian goods.

The Canadians are asking this government to extend the bonded limit up the Stickeen river to Granola, and an amendment has been proposed to the bill under consideration which would make the granting of this request dependent upon the acquiescence of the Canadian government in the requests of American citizens for right of way for railroads into the Klondike country which would connect with American steamship lines at American ports, which they have so far refused.

Another important amendment which has been offered is one prohibiting the manufacture, importation and sale of intoxicating liquors within the territory of Alaska.

Senator Hansbrough, chairman of the committee, is the author of this amendment. It received some attention at the hands of the committee at its sitting today, but the sense of the committee was not taken on its merits.

The postoffice department will take no action on the proposals submitted in answer to a recent advertisement, inviting bids for the establishment of two mail routes between Juneau, Alaska, and the mouth of the Yukon, one going as far as the intersection of the Tanana and the Yukon rivers, and the other from this point to the Yukon's mouth. The former contemplated a course through Canadian territory and included the establishment of several supply stations.

The decision was reached as the result of some representations made to the department by the Canadian government that it has already arranged for a line of stations for mail purposes over its own territory from Dawson, by way of Lake Teslin, including a line of railroad from Lake Teslin to the Stickeen river, thence along the river to the coast near the United States postoffice at Fort Wrangel.

This railroad will be completed in September, at which time the Canadians say they will be prepared to start a mail service. Under the postal treaty between the two countries each is required to carry the mails of the other free when in passage over a portion of its territory between different parts of the country of origin.

In the present case the mail would be transported from lower Alaska to Dawson and thence on the other boundary line without charge to the United States government.

Until some time in June the mail will be carried from Juneau to Circle City by a contract already in existence. Negotiations are in progress between the postal departments of the two governments for an exchange between Dawson City and Circle City.

NORTHWEST NEWS AND VIEWS.

From the Sleepy Eye Dispatch.

Quite a number of farmers saw those big steers from the Mullen farm which were marketed Monday. The steers were an object lesson in breeding and feeding and the chances are that there will be more of such cattle raised and finished here in the future. When it pays Iowa feeders to come to Minnesota to buy feeders it will certainly pay Minnesota breeders to keep, feed and finish their own stock. With corn, and plenty of it, at 14c to 20c per bushel the problem is an easy one. It is the man who finishes the product that makes the money.

From the Mapleton Enterprise.

Mr. Dingley, the author of the tariff bill, is said to wear a London hat. Mr. Dingley denies the statement, and says the hat was made in New York, but the manufacturer put in a London mark to please the Anglomaniacs, who always prefer things because they are English. This being true, it must be taken for granted that the author of the tariff bill classes himself among the Anglomaniacs.

NORTHWEST HUMOR.

From Bede's Budget.

Don't worry 'bout a navy for our beloved Uncle Sam, he's got the stuff to buy one of any other man, and if Spain should sound the tocsin when we didn't own a boat, 'twouldn't take a week for us to man the fleetest one afloat; we could swap some macaroni for Italy's, you know, and Cuba would be libre before we struck a blow; we could buy the British lion's and the Russian bear's as well, and for a dozen years or more they'd talk Spanish down in hell.

From the Jackson Republic.

Old Pease, of the Anoka Union, who has had politics and insane asylum badly mixed the past few years, strolled into a Methodist revival a short time ago and as he seemed to be greatly interested the minister asked him if he did not want to be born again and lead a new life. "Not by a d—— sight, unless I can be born in Norway," answered Pease. The minister fainted and as the hypnotic spell left Pease he picked up his wig and left the church.

From the Ada Index.

Those candidates for office who saw their shadows Feb. 2 should take the ground hog's advice and crawl into their holes for a while.

From Bede's Budget.

Louis XVI. was followed by Napoleon I., and there again we have the old and sacred 16 to 1. But it caused trouble.

The Post Thinks It a "Puzzle."

From the Washington Post.

Those persons who are given to indulgence in guessing matches will no doubt be able to find much excitement in the following news paragraph from the St. Paul Globe:

"In Olmsted county, Minn., a horse ran away with and killed a young man and his mother-in-law, which three years before had killed the young man's father-in-law in the same manner."

The St. Paul paper is not offering any prizes for the best solution of this puzzle.

AT THE HOTELS.

ASTORIA—P. T. Collins, Columbus; Charles Summerfield, Pennington, Fla.; W. A. Baker, Gardner J. Burmester and wife, Heron Lake; Miss Stato Flintizer, Heron Lake; Charles Gardener and wife, Detroit; E. A. Campbell, Winthrop; R. Hill, Alton; F. B. Morriss and wife, West Superior; H. C. Johnston and wife, Brainerd; J. H. Touchstone, Chicago; L. B. Clark, Chicago; H. E. Barnum, Kasota; L. R. Riley, Henning; Iver Bondy, Henning; William Morton and wife, Minneapolis; W. H. Leonard and wife, Lincoln; R. C. Wallace and wife, Fargo.

CLARENDON—John Nevin, New York; J. A. Pickert, Cincinnati; F. Baldwin and son, Jamestown; Fred J. Maly, Wilmot, S. D.; A. C. Buck, New Rockford; Charles M. Yerkes, Melrose; C. A. Tatterson, H. O. Mott, Fargo; J. Baker and wife, St. Cloud; John Johnson and wife, Fargo.

METROPOLITAN—James Boyd, Denver; T. A. Lockwood, Chicago; C. C. Hay, Paul B. Brackett, James Howe, Frank Lyden, Olger Lambert, Mrs. W. T. Gannett, New York; R. E. Armstrong, Spokane; J. B. Marshall, Tacoma; C. C. Cleveland, Springfield, Ill.; Mrs. E. B. Jamison, Hayward, Cal.; John S. Rice, Utica; Fred E. Kellogg, Detroit; S. E. Winkler, Dubuque.

MERCHANTS—L. Shales, Omaha; W. A. Munger, Mazeppa; M. J. Little, St. Louis; C. B. Little, Bismarck; A. A. Sasse, New York; D. M. Starr, Winnipeg; James Bradley, Buffalo, E. E. Ames, Marshfield; S. J. Connor, Chippewa Falls; E. L. Whitney, New Haven; H. Deval, Andover, Mass.; F. A. Hargitt, Burlington; Mrs. C. M. Brown, Fargo; C. H. Henry, Eau Claire; H. J. Anderson, Hudson; S. W. Hamilton, Winona; W. P. D. Hauk, Helena; W. Lewis and wife, Anoka; J. Bradley, Buffalo; A. Smyth, Arlington, Or.; Charles De Soden, Chicago; Robert L. Jacques, W. E. Wetherspoon, Des Moines; J. Bussey, Duluth; M. S. McDewett, Omaha; M. D. Gaylor, St. Cloud; J. A. Wilson, Armous; C. E. Whitney, New Haven; Robert C. Saunders, Hinckley; M. Behner, Milwaukee; H. D. Sutton, Kansas City; Georege D. McArthur, Blue Earth City; H. G. Wier, St. Cloud; M. G. Gommes, Le Sueur; M. P. Curtiss, Le Sueur; J. Wingate and wife, Milwaukee; B. Goodman, Philadelphia.

RYAN—C. F. McVeigh, Chicago; S. B. Ricaby; H. B. Brooks, New York; S. C. Eopstein, Elgin; M. Marcus, Elgin; J. R. McDonald, Milwaukee, T. L. Wood, Des Moines; I. A. Dazian, New York; N. Feldstein, New York; F. T. Tatlup, New York; Henry Altenbrand, New York; Mrs. L. Altenbrand, Gray and wife, S. H. Prince, New York; W. H. White, Seattle; Mrs. C. Power, Seattle; Henry A. Calitto, Washington, D. C.; A. S. Coe, New York; Mrs. J. R. Whalen, San Francisco; J. W. Rush, Chicago; W. L. Getchell, Chicago; R. W. Clarke, Chicago; Fred Casper, New York; E. P. Hall, Chicago; R. H. Dayton, New York; L. J. Lenlhalt, E. T. Bragg, Wisconsin.

WINDSOR—J. E. Greeley, West Superior; A. R. Porter, Duluth; T. H. Pressnen, Duluth; T. B. Campbell, West Superior; T. D. Van Amburg, Cripple Creek, Col.; M. Dowling, Renville; E. L. Livermore, New York; E. R. West, Chicago; C. W. George, Milwaukee; J. D. Reio, Shakopee; F. L. Thorpe, Chicago; E. L. Keyes, Chicago; C. W. Miller, Chicago; H. Alexander and wife, J. Quackenbush and wife, Le Sueur; E. H. Windsor, Duluth; Joseph B. Cotton, Duluta; J. A. Leonard, Rochester; H. S. Hackscapp, Chicago; Hans Grimrud and wife, Beaver Falls; J. Neil, West Superior; J. H. Block, St. Peter; W. E. Cowles, St. Peter; W. M. Campbell, Milwaukee; R. W. Colville, Chicago; J. I. Brown, Chicago; F. L. Randell, Dubuque; J. A. McDougald and wife, Duluth; D. W. Towhy, Superior; J. H. Holliday, Chicago.