DOINGS OF NORTHWEST LEGISLATURES

AFTER RAILROADS AGAIN

BILL TO INCREASE GROSS EARNINGS TAX INTRODUCED IN HOUSE

JACOBSON FATHERS MEASURE

Lac Qui Parle Statesman Thinks About Four Per Cent of Amount Received Would Be Proper Figure.

Meeting at 11 o'clock yesterday morning, the house was in session for actual business just one hour. The Davis memorial was taken up at 2 in the afternoon as the special order. As a matter of fact, there was little important work undertaken.

Mr. Jacobson got in a bill to increase the gross earnings tax on railroads from 3 to 4 per cent. In addition to providing for the tax the bill states that the question shall be submitted to the voters of the state at the next general election, 1902. The bill reads:

Section 1—That every person, company or corporation, owning or operating any lines of railway, situated within, or partly within or partly without this state, shall, during the year 1903, and annually thereafter, pay into the treasury of the state as taxes upon all property within this state, owned or operated for railway purposes, a sum of money equal to 4 per cent of the gross earnings derived from the operation of such line of railway within this state, arising from state and interstate traffic, and the payment of such taxes shall be in full and in lieu of all other taxes upon all other property so taxed. The lands acquired by public grant shall be and remain exempt from taxation until sold and conveyed, as provided in the respective acts whereby such grants were made or recognized.

The amount of gross earnings in Minnesota arising from interstate traffic of such person, company or corporation for the purpose of this act, shall be ascertained by apportioning to the state such proportion of the total earnings derived from such business as the total miles of such line or railway owned or operated within this state bears to the total miles of railway owned and operated as a system by such person, company or corporation, within or without this state.

The second section repeals previous acts inconsistent with this one, and the third section provides for the collection of the tax by civil action in case of failure on the part of any person or company remit according to law.

Quite a debate arose yesterday over the report of the committee on roads and bridges, which report advocated the creation of a highway commission. Mr. Jacobson objected to the commission, and, after making an animated speech on the subject, he called upon Mr. Umland to tell the house which side of the question he had been speaking on. This annoyed Mr. Jacobson, and he quickly retorted: "I am glad you are the only member in the house who cannot understand me."

Mr. Johnson, of Hennepin, chairman of the committee, spoke urgently in favor of his report, and it was finally adopted.

AID FOR NORMAL SCHOOLS.

Bills Providing for Their Maintenance Introduced in the House.

Two bills were introduced in the house yesterday in the interest of the normal schools of the state.

Representative Anderson, of Winona, is the author of a measure which provides for an appropriation for the five schools for the year ending in 1902 of $58,000, to be divided as follows: Winona school, $10,000; Mankato, $10,000; St. Cloud, $12,000; Moorehead, $14,000; Duluth, $12,000. For the following year the same appropriations are provided for, with the exception of that for Duluth, which is to get $15,000.

These appropriations are to be devoted to current expenses. They represent a considerable reduction in the amounts heretofore set apart for that work, and will materially lessen the state appropriations.

Mr. Mallory introduced a bill providing for appropriations amounting to $204,000 to be used for improvements in the various schools. The money is to be divided in this order:

Winona, $59,000; Mankato, $39,000; Moorhead, $55,500; Duluth, $23,500; St. Cloud, $37,000.

NEW HOUSE BILLS.

H. F. 288.—Kelly—To repeal chapter 335 of the General Laws of Minnesota for 1897, relating to vagrancy. Judiciary.

H. F. 289, Kelly—To prohibit police officers in this state from receiving fees in any action or proceeding brought in the name of the state of Minnesota. Judiciary.

H. F. 290, Anderson—To appropriate money for the support of the state normal schools. State normal schools.

H. F. 291, Jacobson—Providing for the taxation of railroad property, and repealing acts inconsistent therewith. Taxes and tax laws.

H. F. 292, Jackson (by request)—To amend chapter 46 of the General Laws of 1889, entitled "An act to establish a probate code." Judiciary.

H. F. 293, Sweet—To appropriate money for the state board of health, in addition to the annual appropriation heretofore established by law, to prevent the spread of contagious diseases among cattle, horses and other domestic animals. Appropriations.

H. F. 294, Sweet—To appropriate money for expenses of the state board of health, in addition to the annual appropriation heretofore established by law, for the collection of vital statistics. Appropriations.

H. F. 295, Sweet—To appropriate money for expenses of the state board of health, in establishing and maintaining a laboratory. Appropriations.

H. F. 296, Rider—Transferring $75,000 from the general fund to the internal improvement fund of the state of Minnesota. Roads, bridges and navigable streams.

H. F. 297, Noyes—To repeal a part of section 3 of the Special Laws of 1891, being an act to bond the county of Carlton for the purpose of building roads and bridges, and prohibiting the levy of taxes for road and bridge purposes other than to pay the interest on said bonds, and to provide a sinking fund for the payment of same. Taxes and tax laws.

H. F. 298, Mallory—To appropriate money for various purposes for the use of the state normal schools. Normal schools.

H. F. 299, Rapp—Legalizing village bonds heretofore executed or issued purporting to be authorized under chapter 200 of the General Laws of Minnesota for the year 1893. Municipal legislation.

SENATE WORKS TOO HARD

PASSES TWO BILLS AND GETS PHOTOGRAPHED ALL IN ONE DAY

CIGARETTES ARE DOOMED

Halverson Bill Prohibiting Sale of the Odoriferous Little Tubes Gets Through Safely.

The senate got itself photographed and passed two bills yesterday. The first, the Halvorson cigarette bill, had recorded against it five votes and some oratory. Senator Mellicke opposed it vigorously on account of the inconvenience it would work Minnesotans of Russian birth and habits. He contended that such citizens were as much entitled to smoke cigarettes as were other Americans to "chew tobacco and spit upon the floor." Senator Coller opposed the bill upon the ground that the present law forbidding the selling of cigarettes to minors is adequate. The other three members voting against the measure were Senators McGill, Stockwell and Du Toit. The other measure passed is the Wilson bill, requiring judges to file decisions within four months after trial of a case.

Senator Stockwell evened up the score yesterday by successfully moving the indefinite postponement of one of Senator Greer's pet bills, which provides that teachers who have taught two consecutive terms and have been engaged for the next one may thereafter be removed for cause only.

The bill was the first one on general orders, and Senator Greer moved that it be reported for passage. Senator Thompson proposed an amendment and said that the bill was "very indefinite." Senator Roverud objected to the measure and Senator Snyder moved an amendment exempting the state university. Senator Fitzpatrick made an able plea for his colleague's pet, and Senator Stockwell moved as a substitute for all amendments that the bill be recommended for indefinite postponement, which motion carried by a good majority.

Under general orders, with Senator McKusick in the chair, the senate recommended the Coller bill, relating to the disbarment or suspension of attorneys, the Sweet kidnaping bill from the house, the Hawkins measure providing for the redistricting of St. Louis county and for two additional county commissioners and the Brower bill, relating to the issuance of bonds to fund the floating indebtedness of counties.

FOR THOSE WHO DODGE TAXES.

Bush Bill Is in Danger of Being Modified.

The Bush tax ferret bill, now before the committee on taxes, is demanding some attention. There is a desire on the part of many to have the bill amended so that ferreters shall receive 30 per cent, instead of only 15 per cent, of money collected on the property that has escaped taxation.

Under the bill as proposed by Mr. Bush, counties may engage the services of individuals to search through the land tax records for land that has escaped the assessor and make a report of the same to the proper official. For this work the percentage of the receipts thus recovered by the county, as indicated above, is to be given them.

The amendment does not meet the approval of the author of the bill. Mr. Bush declares that he did not introduce his measure to benefit some persons looking for light employment, but as a remedial statute for the state, through which it might succeed in bringing to justice a large horde of habitual tax dodgers. Some of the committeemen opposed the bill in any form whatever.

NEW SENATE BILLS.

S. F. 196, Young—To amend section 1235 of General Statutes of 1894, relating to the issuance of bonds by villages. Municipal corporations.

S. F. 197, Daly—Transferring $75,000 from the general revenue fund to the internal improvement fund. Finance.

S. F. 198, Buckman—Making it a misdemeanor for an employe to obtain railway transportation or the benefit of other advancements made by employers to be thereafter repaid in labor, to refuse to perform such labor or repay such advancements and providing for punishment therefor. Labor.

S. F. 199, Horton—To amend section 7 of article 6 of the constitution of the state relating to the probate court. Judiciary.

S. F. 200, Shell—To appropriate $3,000 to reimburse village of Round Lake, Nobles county, for extraordinary expenses incurred in the control of an infectious disease. Finance.

S. F. 201, Coller—To amend chapter 46, General Laws of 1899, relating to the probate code. Judiciary.

S. F. 202, Coller—To establish state weighing and inspection of grain at New Prague, making said city a terminal point, and all weighing and inspection laws applicable to said city. Grain and warehouse.

S. F. 203, Thompson—To provide for the purchase of a suitable portrait of the late Chief Justice C. G. Ripley and appropriating $200 therefor. Finance.

S. F. 204, Baldwin—To cure mortgage foreclosures by advertisement where the power of attorney to foreclose has not been recorded nor filed for record until after the mortgage foreclosure sale. Judiciary.

S. F. 205, Judiciary Substitute for S. F. 160.—Authorizing commissioned officers to take acknowledgments under certain conditions. To pass.

SENATORIAL GOSSIP.

The judiciary committee will report without recommendation, today the McKusick bill, creating the Nineteenth judicial district, and favorably the Somerville measure providing for the appointment of referees in dispute over fire losses. The Fitzpatrick bill to limit the time in which action may be brought for personal injuries will be reported for indefinite postponement.

The senate game and fish committee will report favorably today the Mellicke bill forbidding the shipping outside the state of geese, ducks, brant or other aquatic fowl. The bill, if it becomes a law, will effectively curtail pot hunting in the state.

The senate labor committee met yesterday and listened to arguments favoring the elevator inspection bill introduced some time ago by Senator Snyder. The bill has been referred to a sub committee.

From the series of hysterical squeals incident to the flashlight powder report in the senate yesterday, one standing in the doorway, his vision obscured by the smoke, might easily imagine himself in the presence of a class of boarding school misses—and a mouse.

Adolph Engel, of Helena, Scott county, was entertained at the senate yesterday by Senator Coller.

The salaries of the janitor of the senate chamber and the keeper of the lieutenant governor's room were yesterday advanced to $5 per day.

Senator Dickey yesterday invited the entire senate to junket to Red Wing, leaving St. Paul at 1:30 today. A number of senators have manifested their willingness to attend and inspect the state training school and the home of Tams Bixby.

The members of both houses of the legislature have been invited to visit the state training school at Red Wing today. The train will leave St. Paul at 1:30 this afternoon and return at the pleasure of the excursionists.

The house and senate yesterday received invitations from the local Sons and Daughters of the Revolution to attend a celebration of Washington's birthday at the People's church in this city on Thursday night. Robert G. Evans, of Minneapolis, and Rev. S. G. Smith will both deliver addresses.

South Dakota.

BILL WILL BE VETOED

GOVERNOR CONSIDERS IT VICIOUS—COMMITTEE AT WORK.

PIERRE, S. D., Feb. 18.—(Special.)—When the legislature reassembles, Gov. Herried will return his first veto message of the season. It will be on the bill to allow the use of abbreviations in the publication of tax lists. The governor considers the bill to be a vicious one, which will only make more easy any manipulation to secure tax titles, and which would be against the best interest of the people of the state if it should be placed on the statute books.

The legislative probing committee met at Yankton Friday afternoon, and in the evening proceeded to the hospital for the insane, where Dr. V. Sebiakin Ross, the superintendent, and Steward Nissen were examined touching the manner of keeping the books of the institution and the keeping of inventories. It was discovered that no inventory of the contents of the buildings had been handed to the present officials when they took charge, and that they were not asked to receipt for anything. The matter of the power house and laundry will be taken up tomorrow, and the committee will endeavor to ascertain why it was necessary to ask for a further appropriation for them.

A letter was received from ex-Gov. Lee saying that he would attend before the committee for examination on Monday either at Yankton or Sioux Falls.

It is said that a deal has been arranged between Watertown and Pierre by which the former has agreed to give up its capital aspirations, and the latter has agreed to aid Watertown in securing the removal of the reform school from Plankinton to Watertown. The deal is a good one for Pierre. It has the goods already. The goods going to Watertown must be delivered between now and the close of the legislature.

Wisconsin.

TEACHERS SEE DANGER

HARVEY BILL NOW PENDING BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE.

MADISON, Wis., Feb. 18.—(Special.)—The bill pending before the legislature known as the Harvey bill, which formulates new lines for the management of the public schools of the state and takes away some of the powers and responsibilities of the county superintendents, is causing a great deal of talk and no little excitement among the teachers and others interested.

It is claimed that if the bill becomes a law from one-third to one-half of the teachers employed in Wisconsin, outside of the larger cities, will have to seek other employment. It is also claimed by the opponents of the measure that this ban will not only fall on the poorer class of teachers, but that some of the ablest pedagogues in the state will be unable to retain their positions.

The pending bill, while it does not away with the office of county superintendent, reduces the position to that of a clerical one, under the state superintendent. It also requires the teachers to be re-examined in all branches each time they apply for a license to teach.

* * *

A Minnesota commission, consisting of Messrs. Lee, Morey and Leavitt, appointed by the governor under a resolution of the legislature to investigate the Wisconsin system of supervision of the state charitable and penal institutions, is here today visiting the state board of control, and left this afternoon to look over the state prison, under the escort of E. R. Petherick, of the state board of control. They visited the state hospital for the insane at Mendota yesterday. They express themselves as much pleased with what they have seen thus far.

$15.00 Cut in California Rates.

Every Tuesday, beginning February 12th, the Minneapolis & St. Louis R. R. will sell colonist tickets to all California common points at $32.90. Elegant new 16 section tourist cars go through without change. Call at Minneapolis & St. Louis City Ticket office, No. 398 Robert Street.

Three Through Tourist Cars To California.

Monday—via Kansas City and the Santa Fe Route to Los Angeles . . . . .

Tuesday—via Des Moines and Scenic Route, through the Colorado resorts, to San Francisco . . . . . .

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New Pullman Tourist Sleeping Cars, with every convenience, via the popular . . . . . .

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For full information and booklet address J. P. Elmer, G. A. P. D., corner Fifth and Robert streets, St. Paul . . . . . .

North Dakota.

PASS AROUND THE COIN

FLICKERTAIL SENATE HAS PRACTICALLY COMPLETED WORK ON THE APPROPRIATIONS

MONEY FOR THE STATE FAIR

Will Be Forthcoming, as the House Killed the Measure Repealing the State's Appropriation Therefor.

BISMARCK, N. D., Feb 18.—(Special.)—The senate appropriation committee tonight recommended $120,000 for a state hospital for insane at Jamestown, $84,000 for state penitentiary at Bismarck, $14,000 for state industrial school at Ellendale, $20,000 for soldiers' home at Lisbon, $4,000 for expense of appraising and sale of state school lands and $1,400 for deficiency in account of state dairy commissioner. This practically winds up the matter of appropriations for the session. The house killed the repeal of the state fair appropriation this afternoon.

* * *

Representative Richardson, the Democratic leader in the house, has received many compliments on his victory in the ways and means committee, in favor of a report to the house against concurring in the senate amendments to the bill reducing war taxes, and asking a conference thereon, after a majority of Republican members of the committee had decided simply to non-concur without asking a conference. The Republicans of the committee were divided, and Mr. Richardson quickly took advantage of the opportunity and scored a victory. There is a Republican scheme to kill this bill.

* * *

The bill making state's attorneys the only public prosecutors, to have charge of all cases unless relieved for cause, passed the senate, and for its passage Senator La Moure presented arguments and a letter from Bosard & Bosard, of Grand Forks, to the state's attorney of Pembina county, W. J. Burke, that were highly interesting. In support of the bill the Pembina senator spoke briefly, by way of introducing the communication in question, and in conclusion stated that it appeared that the county of Pembina had been robbed of several thousand dollars by the operation of the Enforcement league people, which amount should have gone to the school fund. The law in liquor prosecutions, he said, provided for the payment of legal expenses of trials, not for moneys to be paid detectives and Pinkerton people.

* * *

A resolution has been introduced in the house appropriating $10,000 for the pan-American exposition and creating a board of managers, consisting of the governor, the commissioner of agriculture, a member of the agricultural college faculty and two citizens, and also a board of three lady managers.

* * *

The next legislative assembly in the state of North Dakota will have 139 members, as against 93 in the present assembly. This is the radical increase provided for in the Sharpe bill, which is the apportionment measure that has passed and will be approved by Gov. White. It was stated in the rather heated discussions of the merits of the bill that the governor would not approve a bill apportioning the representation as it was apportioned in this bill, but assurances have been received by the assembly leaders who have been pushing the measure that if it passed both houses it would receive executive approval. Indeed, it would require especially urgent reasons if the executive should set aside the most difficult and important work before the legislative assembly. It is not easy to get a majority of both houses together on an apportionment measure, and if this work should be toppled over, once it has been accomplished, it might render the session a futile one so far as reapportionment is concerned and result in no redistricting of the state at all, as there are only about two weeks of working time left, with many other important measures to be considered.

The following is a table of the representation by counties in the new apportionment:

County—	Senate.	House.
Barnes	2	4
Benson	1	2
Bottineau	1	2
Burleigh	1	2
Cass	3	9
Cavalier	2	4
Dickey	1	2
Eddy and Foster	1	2
Emmons and Kidder	1	2
Grand Forks	3	8
Griggs and Steele	1	3
La Moure	1	2
Logan	1	2
McHenry and Pierce	1	3
McIntosh and Logan	1	2
McLean, Mercer and Oliver	1	2
Nelson	1	2
Pembina	2	6
Richland	2	5
Ramsey	1	3
Ransom	1	2
Rolette	1	2
Sargent	1	2
Stutsman	1	3
Stark and Billings	1	3
Traill	2	4
Towner	1	2
Wells	1	3
Ward and Williams	1	3
Walsh	2	6
Totals	40	99

The bill as originally passed in the senate provided for this representation, except that the house membership was smaller by one, a member being added by the house in Richland county.

On the ground of economy came the most of the criticisms of the new apportionment. It is claimed the state can ill afford the additional expense for salary and mileage of members, and of the additional clerks and employes that will come with this enlarged list of members. The question of clerk hire will probably be settled by this legislature by the passage of the act calling for the engrossing and enrolling of all bills by contract, to be let to the lowest bidder. This is one of the agreements that has been made in the passage of the bill. At every session in the past thousands of collars have been paid out to political clerks. Under the proposed contract system this would be avoided. The work would be done at half the expense—possibly a still greater reduction. It is estimated there could be enough saved in one session to pay the additional salaries of the members added in the new apportionment.

The contract bill provides that sixty days before the meeting of the legislative assembly the secretary of state shall give notice by advertisement that sealed bids will be received for the engrossing and enrolling of all bills passed by each house of the legislative assembly. The work is to be done at a fixed price per folio, the engrossing to be done in typewriter and the enrolling with pen and ink. The bids are to be passed upon by the governor, secretary of state and state auditor, and a bond is to be given for the faithful performance of the contract.

* * *

Another change in the state board of equalization is proposed by a bill making the board to consist of the governor, treasurer and auditor and one county commissioner from each county. The state has already tested two methods of equalizing property by a state board. The first law provided for a board consisting of several state officers and representatives from the judicial districts appointed by the governor. This system did not prove altogether satisfactory and a change was made to the present one, where the state board consists of the governor, auditor, treasurer, attorney general and commissioner of agriculture. Under the present system the equalization of property has not always been satisfactory. What would be the success of a board consisting of over forty members it is hard to say. It is doubted whether the equalization would be as equitable as now.

* * *

Speaking of the bill to repeal the present elevator tax law, one of the persons interested and opposed to the passage of the bill says: "The records show that a little more taxes have been secured under this law than under the old plan. The statement that wheat has been shipped out of the state before April 1, to avoid listing, will not hold water, for it has been shown that every bushel of wheat so moved to avoid taxes was moved at a loss that would exceed the amount of the tax. If the bill to list May 1 passes, it will enable the elevator companies to ship out their wheat for May delivery and avoid the tax. The elevators are against the present law, of course, and are working to create a sentiment against it. It is known that in some cases elevators have held out several cents a bushel for taxes on wheat stored by farmers, when as a matter of fact the elevators were not taxed on the wheat at all. This manner of creating a prejudice against the law has had some effect. An attempt was made to knock out the law in supreme court, but this proved futile and now another endeavor is being made to repeal the law."

* * *

Osteopathists appear to have won their fight for retention of their right to practice, and the medical association bill will be amended to allow them right to practice in the state.

* * *

The pharmacists of the state are keeping watch of legislation affecting liquor permits for medicinal purposes. Leading representatives of the druggists' association of the state say there is trouble enough under the present law and they are opposed to any tinkering. They want the law allowed to stand as it is, or repealed altogether, and medicinal sales of liquor taken away from druggists altogether. So far only one bill has been introduced touching this matter, and that is a bill allowing a druggist to secure his petition for a permit from the city in which he does business, instead of confining the petitioners to the ward in which he does business. It is claimed that if the ward is a business district this provision of the law makes it difficult to get the requisite number of signers, even if the druggist secures all who are eligible to sign under the law.

* * *

The contract system of engrossing and enrolling legislative bills is now before the legislature in the shape of a bill to do away with the present political system of appointing legislative clerks and let the clerical work out to the highest bidder. Many members of the legislature have claimed that the contract system is preferable from many points of view, but it remains to be seen whether the assembly will inaugurate this reform or allow the old-time system to stand.

U.S. SENATE KEPT BUSY

DISCUSSED SHIPS, POSTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND THE MILITARY ACADEMY BILL

Continued From First Page.

tions committee, took occasion to make a detailed statement of the appropriations for the present congress. He was led to do this, he said, by many criticisms of the reckless extravagance of this congress. The situation, he said, was quite bad enough without exaggerating it. He figured that the appropriations would total $694,118,595, exclusive of the sinking fund requirement of $53,000,000, against $657,150,362 for the current year. In the course of his remarks he fired some shots at the minority for prating of economy and not helping to uphold the hands of himself and others when they were trying to keep appropriations down.

GAGE AND RUSSIAN SUGAR.

In speaking today of his recent order, interposing a countervailing duty upon Russian sugars, Secretary Gage said:

"It is not a question of what the manufacturers desire or think ought to be. It is not a question of what the sugar refiners or our best raisers desire or think ought to be. It is a question purely of law and fact. The secretary of the treasury is sworn to enforce the law—not to make law. The late decision as to the liability of Russian sugar to pay a countervailing duty based on the department's apprehension of the law and facts. The board of general appraisers is a body constituted by congress especially to hear and judicially determine disputes of law and fact growing out of disputes over the custom laws. Our own citizens take their grievances there, the importers of Russian sugar may take their grievances there. The way is open for the prompt hearing and determination of their appeal if made. It lies with them to consent by silence or to seek a judicial review through the avenue that our laws provide."

The secretary has received a number of inquiries in regard to his recent action, and today he sent answers substantially as follows:

"In reply to your letter of the 16th inst., relative to countervailing duty of Russian sugars, I have to inform you that, after careful consideration of the effects of the Russian law, and regulations upon the price of that commodity for home consumption and the price for exportation, as exemplified in reports from our consular officers in Russia, this department has arrived at the conclusion that Russia indirectly pays or bestows a bounty on the export of sugars within the meaning of section 5 of the act of July 24, 1897, and consequently that it was my duty under the law to proclaim the net amounts of such bounties for the assessment of additional duties, which was done by department circular of No. 10 of Feb. 14, 1901. It is to be regretted that the Russian minister of finance should have considered this action in the light of a discrimination on our part against the Russian commerce as stated in our recent daily press, and have withdrawn from our imports into Russia, the privileges of the conventional tariff of that country to which the United States is entitled under 'The most favored nation' clause in our treaty of commerce and navigation with Russia of 1832.

"The allegation of discrimination appears to be unfounded in view of the fact that sugars coming from other bounty-paying countries, such as France, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, etc., are subjected to additional duties under said section 5, and that unless the above stated determination of this department is reversed by a competent tribunal, the exemption of Russian sugars from additional duty would rightly be regarded by the other bounty-paying countries as a discrimination against them, and in favor of Russia.

"It is hoped that upon a proper presentation of the matter to the Russian government by our department of state the reputed order of the Russian minister of finance will be revoked."

SAMPSON AND SCHLEY.

Senator Hale, chairman of the senate committee on naval affairs, today introduced a bill for the revival of the grade of vice-admiral in the navy, and authorizing the president to appoint two rear-admirals to that office. The bill is in the interests of Admirals Sampson and Schley, and is intended to aid in solving the problem of their promotion as well as of other officers who served with them in the Spanish war.

Senator Hale also introduced the following joint resolution of thanks to Admiral Sampson, in accordance with the president's recent recommendation:

"That in accordance with the provision of section 1508, of the revised statutes, the thanks of congress and of the American people are hereby tendered to Rear Admiral Wm. T. Sampson, United States navy, and commander-in-chief of the United States naval force of the North Atlantic station, during the late war with Spain, and to the officers and men under his command, for highly distinguished conduct in the conflict with the enemy, and in carrying on the blockade and naval campaigns on the Cuban coast, resulting in the destruction of the Spanish fleet at Santiago de Cuba, July 3, 1898.

"That the president of the United States be requested to cause this resolution to be promulgated, and to communicate the same to Rear Admiral Sampson, and to the officers and men of his late command."

Both measures were prepared at the navy department.

Senator McComas today introduced a bill and resolutions similar to those of Senator Hale, but the McComas bill provides that the men to be made vice admirals shall be selected from "those who participated in the naval battle off Santiago." His resolution extending the thanks of congress names Schley and places him before Sampson, but includes them with "the officers and men engaged in the naval battle off Santiago."

ARMY PROMOTIONS.

The president today sent the following nominations to the senate:

Army of the United States, Engineers' Corps—First lieutenants to be captains: Joseph F. Sewell, James Mindo, Jay J. Morrow. Ordnance department, captains to be majors: Andrew H. Russell, Roger S. Bierne. First lieutenant to be captain: Tracy O. Dickson.

Signal Corps—Captains to be majors: George P. Scriven, Wm. A. Glassford, Joseph E. Maxfield.

Cavalry—Captains to be majors: Daniel C. Pearson, second; Herbert E. Tutherly, first; Lieut. H. R. Rare, seventh. First lieutenants to be captains: Jesse M. Carter, fifth; Harry G. Trout, second.

Artillery—Captains to be majors: Walter Howe, Peter Leary Jr.; Ephraim T. C. Richmond, Ramsay D. Potts. First lieutenants to be captains, C. T. Menoher, T. B. Mott, Gustave W. S. Stouens, Richmond P. Davis, Ernest Hinds, Wirt Robinson, George F. Landers.

Infantry—Captain to be major: George H. Roach, Seventeenth. First lieutenants to be captains: John S. Switzer, Fourth; H. O. Williams, Twentieth; George D. Guyer, Sixteenth; William F. Crote, Eighteenth; Wm. H. H. Chapman, Twenty-fifth.

Navy—Marine Corps—First Lieutenants to be captains: Philip S. Brown, John F. McGill, Louis M. Gulick, David D. Porter and Arthur J. Matthews. Second lieutenants to be first lieutenants: Herbert J. Hirschinger, Henry D. F. Long, Harry L. Lay, Charles C. Carpenter, Charles B. Taylor, A. S. Williams, Fred M. Dalick, Louis McC. Little, John G. Muir and Frederic M. Wise Jr.

RIVER AND HARBORS.

The senate committee on commerce today commenced the consideration of the river and harbor bill. Action upon several amendments heretofore adopted has been reconsidered and various house provisions recast until the total appropriations have been reduced below that made by the house. The Nicaragua canal amendment was voted down today.

The committee caused the reduction in the total of the bill by horizontal cuts on all important items, these reductions amounting to one-fourth in all appropriations of over $50,000 in immediate cash appropriations, and one-third in all appropriations in excess of $300,000 for continuing contracts. These reductions were made in all sums above those amounts, whether they were as the bill passed the house or as it had been amended by the senate committee. In some instances the committee had increased the amounts provided by the house, and in cases of this kind the reductions amounted in some instances to a practical return to the house figures. There were also some entirely new items added by the committee. All were reduced. The bill, therefore, is practically a new measure as to amounts. The totals were not carefully ascertained by the committee, but they approximate $60,000,000. As the bill will be presented to the senate, the principal items of direct appropriations will stand as follows:

Mobile harbor, Alabama, $68,813; southwest pass, Mississippi, $312,500; mouth of passes at Calcasieu river, Louisiana, $56,250; Sabine pass, Texas, $150,000; Columbia river, mouth of, $220,000; Galveston (Tex.) channel, $112,500; Conneaut harbor, Ohio, $56,250; Fairport harbor, Ohio, $112,500; Cleveland harbor, Ohio, $93,750, and for Cleveland harbor in another connection, $450,000; Sandusky harbor, Ohio, $75,000; Waukegan harbor, Illinois, $75,000; Holland harbor, Michigan, $85,250; Grand Marais harbor of refuge, Michigan, $52,500; Milwaukee harbor of refuge, Wisconsin, $88,250; Burlington bay, Minnesota, $150,000; San Pedro (Cal.) inner harbor, $112,500; waterway between Puget sound and Lakes Union and Washington, Washington, $56,250; Monongahela river, Pennsylvania, 150,000; Chattahoochee river, Georgia and Alabama, $63,750; St. John's river, Florida, Jacksonville to the ocean, $112,500; Coosa river, Georgia and Alabama, $75,000; Warrior and Tombigbee rivers, Alabama, $270,000; Red river in Louisiana, etc., $75,000; Ouachita and Black rivers, $75,000; Galveston ship canal, etc., $225,000; Trinity river, Texas, $112,500; Brazos river, Texas, $161,250; Arkansas river, Arkansas, $56,250; upper White river, Arkansas, $150,000; Tennessee river, Chattanooga to Riverton, $67,500; Cumberland river, below Nashville, $211,000; Cumberland river above Nashville, $153,750; Big Sandy river, West Virginia and Kentucky, $162,500; Ohio river, $306,000; Ohio river, locks and dams, $318,750; Detroit river, Michigan, $375,000; St. Clair flats canal, Michigan, $257,500; middle and west Neebish channels, Michigan, $375,000; Calumet river, Illinois and Indiana, 56,250; Illinois river, Illinois, $56,250; Rock river, Illinois, $150,000; Mississippi river, mouth of the Ohio to St. Paul, $1,012,500; Mississippi river, head of the passes to the Ohio, $1,875,000; storage reservoirs, Sioux river South Dakota, $52,500; Missouri river, at and above Sioux City, Io., $112,500; Missouri river, below Sioux City, $262,500.

Continuing contracts: Black Rock harbor, Lake Erie, $409,762; Southwest pass, Mississippi, $1,866,667; Galveston harbor, restoration of jetties, $666,667; Conneaut harbor, Ohio, $228,000; Cleveland harbor, Ohio, $1,466,667; Burlington bay, Minn., (to complete) $285,000; Oakland harbor, Cal., $612,000; Tacoma harbor, Wash., $262,667; Monongahela river, Pa., $291,276; Ouachita and Black rivers (Arkansas and Louisiana), $300,000; Galveston ship channel, $200,000; Trinity river, Tex., $666,666; Big Sandy river, $666,666; Ohio river, $633,332; Detroit river, $166,666; middle and west Neebish channels, St. Mary's river, Mich., $2,66,666; Mississippi, mouth of Ohio to St. Paul, $1,733,332; Mississippi, mouth of Ohio to the head of the passes, $5,333,353; Columbia river, mouth of, $1,000,000.

Reservoirs for the storage of surplus waters and for irrigation, are recommended for Piney creek, Wyoming; Bull river, Wyoming; and Sioux River, South Dakota.

Three hundred thousand dollars is provided for surveys and examinations of rivers and harbors not provided for in the bill.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

Secretary Hay is rapidly improving, and will be able to leave his house in a few days.

Gen. MacArthur has informed the war department that the transports Hancock and Kilpatrick left Manila Sunday for the United States. The Hancock has the Thirtieth volunteer infantry on board, and the Kilpatrick carries 400 sick soldiers.

Senator Hansbrough, from the senate committee on public lands, reported his bill devoting the proceeds of the sale of lands in the arid land states to the reclamation of the arid lands by irrigation as an amendment to the sundry civil bill.

The resolution of Senator Jones (Ark.) to discharge the judiciary committee from the further consideration of the anti-trust bill, introduced last week, came up in regular order in the senate and went over until Thursday by unanimous consent.

The regular term of service of Commander Benjamin F. Tilley, the commandant of the naval at Tutuila, Samoa, will soon expire, and he will come home on leave of absence. It is probable that the navy department, however, will give him an additional assignment to the command of the station, as he is willing to return there, and his administration of affairs has given much satisfaction to the natives of the island under his charge.

The secretary of the treasury sent to the senate a letter from the commissioner general of immigration requesting mandatory legislation for the purpose of requiring steamship companies bringing Chinese persons to ports of the United States to return to China those who may be rejected by the United States authorities. The present law is intended to accomplish this purpose, but it is not considered sufficiently specific.

Powell Clayton, United States ambassador to Mexico, has arrived in Washington on leave of absence, and is going to his home in Arkansas. He speaks in glowing terms of the conditions in Mexico, paying a high tribute to the energy with which the international resources are being developed and laying particular stress on the cordial welcome given to American ideas and Americans.

Representative Bell, of Colorado, introduced a resolution inquiring of the secretary of the interior whether the pension office heretofore has been turned over to inaugural committees for the purpose of holding the inaugural ball, and whether the pension employes are given leave during the transformation of the building for inaugural purposes. A preamble recites reports as to the removal of 300,000 pension files, and the suspension of work for eight days by between 1,500 and 2,500 pension office employes, receiving pay amounting to over $7,000 per day.

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