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NO 51

Washington Letter.

By Edward Keating,
Congressman-at-Large
From Colorado.

The days of miracles have not passed at least, not in the Congress of the United States.

Suppose that a month ago some one had told you that full-fledged rural-credit system—a plan on which Uncle Sam was to lend millions to the farmers of the nation and take as security first mortgages on their land—could be put through the United States Senate without debate and without a dissenting vote, what would you think of such a fairy-tale and the teller?

Yet, that is exactly what happened in the closing hours of the 63d Congress. And thereby hangs a most interesting tale.

We have heard a good deal about rural credit legislation during the last two or three years. Everybody seemed to favor the idea but not more than half a dozen members of Congress could agree on any one bill.

Out of the Babel of discussion, two well defined schools of thought finally took form. One favored government aid and the other did not. The latter commanded the support of the conservatives and was regarded as the "banker's crowd." The former was denounced as "populistic" and unsound, and even more complimentary epithets were sometimes applied.

The "government aiders" argued that the government had never hesitated to lend money to the national banks and that Uncle Sam could afford to be as generous to the farmer as to the banker, especially in view of the fact that the farmer's security was quite as good if not better than the banker's.

The opponents of this idea contended that the government should authorize the formation of "land banks" in farming communities and supervise the operations of and approve the securities issued by these institutions. Such securities, it was urged, would command a ready sale at a low rate of interest. Thus the farmer would get cheap money without involving the credit of the nation.

McCUMBER'S AMENDMENT

As neither side would yield, President Wilson suggested that the subject go over to the next Congress.

That was the situation when the Agricultural Appropriation bill came before the Senate. The debate dragged and tired Senators snoozed in cloak rooms or worked in their offices. An afternoon had been devoted to a discussion of the best way to destroy the coyotes which were preying on cattle on some of the forest reserve and not more than half a dozen Senators were at their desks, when Senator McCumber, of South Dakota, arose and calmly offered an amendment.

It was a copy of his pit rural-credit bill—a clean-cut "government aid" proposition.

It was clearly out of order, and Hollis, of New Hampshire,

sprang to his feet to make the objection. Gore, the blind Senator from Oklahoma, restrained him. There was a whispered conference, and then—

The question is on the adoption of the amendment offered by the Senator from South Dakota, said the Vice President, and he declared it carried on a viva voce vote.

Thus the august Senate disposed of what many thoughtful men regard as the most important legislation pending in Congress.

WHAT DID GORE SAY?

When the news of the action of the upper house spread through the Capitol Senators and Representatives alike refused to believe it. Many and varied were the stories told of that whispered conference between Gore and Hollis.

The generally accepted version was that Gore urged Hollis to permit the McCumber amendment to go into the bill in order that Hollis' bills, which did not provide for government aid, might be substituted by the conference committee which would seek to adjust the differences between the House and Senate.

If that was the plan it failed signally. When the appropriation bill was returned to the House, some of the "Government-aiders" sought to have the McCumber amendment accepted without change. They realized that it was not perfect but they believed it provided the skeleton for a genuine sure credit system and they contended that needed additions could be supplied by the next Congress.

They knew that if they permitted the subject to go to a conference committee all reference to government aid would be eliminated and that they would be compelled to accept the Hollis bill or no rural credit legislation.

It was a pretty fight but the "government aiders" were out-generaled. They succeeded in voting down the Hollis bill but they could not prevent the amending of the McCumber amendment.

COMPROMISE ON A COMMISSION

In this way the entire subject of rural credit legislation was eventually thrown into the hands of a conference committee made up in large part of men hostile to government aid. They did not dare attempt to force the Hollis bill through the House, however.

Instead they suggested the appointment of a joint commission, composed of Senators and Representatives, to study the rural credit systems of other countries and report a bill to the 64th Congress next December.

In sporting parlance, it was a "Dog-fall"—neither side had triumphed—but the rural credit issue has received such publicity that it can no longer be pigeon-holed.

The next Congress will be compelled to face the music and the result will be legislation which will permanently emancipate the farmers of this country from the shackles of the money-lenders.

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Warrant Call.

Cheyenne Wells, Colo.
March 11, 1915.

The following County and School Warrants are due and payable at the office of the County treasurer, and will cease to bear interest thirty days from above date on county warrants and twenty days on school warrants.

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 1

Schedule	Special Fund Warrant	Amount
79	1014	\$42 77
100	1104	30 52
99	1152	21 95
101	1165	10 59
102	1167	4 09
103	1168	2 00
104	1151	5 00
105	1161	7 00
106	1163	3 50
107	1139	60 00
108	1166	5 00
110	1144	24 32
111	1176	7 00
112	1171	7 55
113	1170	1 25
114	1145	1 35
115	1172	4 75
116	1147	13 50
117	1173	70 78
118	1174	20 00
119	1169	6 00
120	1175	6 00
121	1182	60 00
122	1184	10 00
123	1183	60 00
127	1185	6 20
128	1186	50 00
129	1189	45 00
131	1188	1 39
134	1192	25 00
135	1194	60 00
136	1195	55 00
137	1199	55 00
138	1193	60 00
139	1187	3 20
140	1200	60 00
141	1198	60 00
142	1211	3 00
143	1201	10 00
144	1202	21 50
Total		

Special School District No. 3

254	1083	9 15
255	1088	50 00
256	1094	10 00
257	1082	1 00
258	1108	62 44
259	1109	52 26
260	1110	101 94
261	1124	10 20
262	1125	103 44
263	1097	75 00
264	1098	60 00
265	1091	50 00
266	1117	11 60
267	1105	50 00
268	1113	10 00
269	1112	10 00
270	1116	1 50
271	1118	103 00
272	1114	20 00
273	1104	50 00
274	1120	10 00
275	1121	1 50
276	1102	50 00
277	1115	75 00
278	1101	50 00
279	1100	50 00
280	1099	50 00
281	1128	3 00
282	1122	1 50
283	1112	1 50
284	1096	100 00
285	1123	3 50
286	1107	50 00
287	1111	10 00
288	1106	50 00
289	1129	4 50
290	1127	1 50
291	1103	60 00
292	1103	50 00
293	1133	75 00
294	1131	1 00
295	1136	50 00
296	1135	50 00
297	1126	2 00
298	1140	50 00
299	1144	50 00
300	1141	50 00
301	1143	50 00
302	1230	12 00
303	1168	25 00
304	1164	28 79
305	1142	50 00
306	1138	50 00
307	1167	25 00
308	1166	2 00
309	1150	50 00
310	1137	50 00
311	1162	5 00
312	1157	21 00
313	1160	10 00
314	1158	11 85
315	1132	15 00
316	1159	10 00
317	1163	19 34
318	1165	145 57
319	1161	10 00
320	1159	50 00
321	1181	12 45
322	1171	50 00
323	1186	13 50
324	1179	60 00
325	1185	2 50
326	1187	5 00
327	1174	50 00
328	1172	50 00
329	1169	75 00
330	1177	50 00
331	1178	50 00
332	1182	1 00
333	1176	50 00
334	1179	50 00
335	1149	50 00
336	1183	10 00
337		
Total		3,014 36

Special School District No. 4.

8	425	50 00
9	426	50 00
10	432	50 00
11	433	50 00
12	434	50 00
13	436	50 00
14	439	50 00
Total		350 00

Special School District No. 5.

1	835	50 00
2	838	50 00
3	842	8 00
4	848	18 58
5	840	8 00
6	846	1 50
7	850	20 00
8	851	35
9	860	8 00
10	858	8 00
11	847	20 25
Total		192 68

Special School District No. 8

83	457	4 50
84	473	16 06
85	476	3 63
86	486	187 58
87	484	2 00
88	483	9 00
89	487	20 00
90	485	4 00
91	489	50 00
92	481	20 00
93	482	15 00
94	491	50 00
95	492	50 00
96	490	50 00
97	498	5 00
98	504	4 00
99	493	52 00
100	497	60 00
101	505	60 00
102	495	50 00
103	494	50 00
104	506	34 00
105	502	3 00
106	507	50 00
107	508	50 00
108	509	50 00
109	503	3 15
110	500	5 25
111	512	50 00
112	511	50 00
113	522	60 00
114	519	50 00
115	523	50 00
Total		1218 09

Special School District No. 9.

128	145	130
129	142	50 00
130	141	50 00
131	139	55 00
132	140	50 00
133	144	50 00
134	143	50 00
135	147	50 00
136	146	55 00
137	150	50 00
138	151	50 00
139	148	50 00
140	149	50 00
141	156	50 00
142	157	50 00
143	154	50 00
144	155	60 00
145	150	50 00
146	160	55 00
147	166	50 00
148	163	50 00
149	162	50 00
150	164	55 00
151	165	50 00
Total		1221 36

PROSPECT HILL

A very readable summing up of the great achievements of the sixty-third Congress by Speaker Champ Clark, made a column article in Walter L. Bales' Excelsior Springs Standard last week. It is commendable in the local press to call attention in emphatic ways about what the last Congress did for the country. In this way the general public will be led to laud instead of lampoon that "long parliament," or vice versa if aught but fair play has been meted out, they should record a protest.

The rural press of Mo. are most unanimous in urging the Mo. legislators to pass the pending election bill by purifying elections in larger cities in that state. When the county newspaper champions a cause the people are generally behind it. Legislators should sit up and take notice when the people speak.

The Farmers Institute on Monday was indifferently attended. This was primarily due to the muddy roads, a condition of travel our people are prejudiced against. Those who persevered

and were present, profited greatly by it. Messrs. Helmreich and Grace have their subjects well in hand and theoretically furnished the key to unlock "the door to earth's hidden treasure," as well as much useful information how to select and care for the Dairy herd. The silo as an indispensable part of the economic farm conditions was given its due share of discussion. Fall and spring plowing, deep and shallow were carefully considered, with facts and figures to favor spring breaking and medium depth and as a packer, the common disc run straight. Sub-soiling was shown to be a disadvantage. To conserve moisture, thorough cultivation and keep the weeds down. By all means have trees and cultivate them like corn. Many other things useful and practical were brought forward by these able agricultural teachers, but we lack space. Come to the next Farmers Congress and get information first hand.

ILLINOIS TOWNSHIP

Mrs. John Shepard, has been on the sick list.

W. H. Potts called at the Waltman place Monday.

Charles Angel put up ice Friday and Saturday.

H. Bacon called at the Waltman place Monday.

Mr. Denison of Kiowa, Co went to Arapahoe last week.

Riley Hillard expects to begin work on his fort soon.

Grace Petty left last Saturday to visit friends in Kansas.

Messrs Rhac and Petty went to Arapahoe last Saturday.

Charles Angel and wife visited at the Waltman place Wednesday.

H Bacon and W. H. Potts took dinner at J. A. Deakins on Monday.

Mrs. James Finch and three children were quite sick the past week.

Mrs. Chas. Angel had the misfortune to lose a valuable milk cow last week.

W. H. Potts expects to make a trip east to look at land in the near future.

Clara Waltman has bought the fence on the Scarlett place and will finish fencing her homestead.

The snow is about all gone and the grass looks good after wading around through about two feet of snow.

We are sorry to hear that Mr. Norton and family are going to leave, but what is our loss will be some body's gain.

Lyman Waltman and wife spent Friday of last week at the Finch ranch, helping butcher.

Riley Hillard has bought Mr. Faridays wheat drill.

Last Friday evening, Mr. and Mrs. Waltman left the Finch ranch about dark and got lost after passing Chas. Angels place but by taking the track they made it back to Angels, and finding the track made in the morning they got home all right, after driving five hours. They say stay where you are at when it is dark and snow on the ground and no road.