

# ROUTINE WORK IN CONGRESS

## Outline of Business Transacted by the Members of Both Houses.

### WITH NATIONAL LAWMAKERS

Brief Summary of the Doings of the People's Servants in Session at Washington Cleverly Condensed by Special Correspondents.

Wednesday, Jan. 14.

The senate unanimously passed the bill providing for a rebate on coal. It was passed without debate a few minutes after it was brought over from the house. The militia bill was also passed, with an amendment striking out the section providing for a reserve force of trained men, thus removing the objection made against it. Mr. Tillman occupied the attention of the senate for an hour and a half in a characteristic speech in which he denounced trusts and monopolies and severely criticized the Attorney General. The statehood bill was up for short time, during which Mr. McCumber spoke in favor of admitting Oklahoma, Arizona and New Mexico.

The bill reformed the ways and means committee providing for a rebate on the duties on foreign coal for a period of one year was passed in short order in the house by the practically unanimous vote of 258 to 5. Rapid progress was made with the army appropriation bill after the coal bill had been passed. The most important amendments adopted were to increase the number of officers in the signal corps by twenty-three, and another to prevent the discontinuance of the army transport service without action by Congress.

Thursday, Jan. 15.

The resolution introduced by Mr. Hoar (Mass.) calling on the President to inform the Senate what government is now existing in Guam and asking why Mabini is detained on the island was passed. The Vest resolution was called up and Mr. Tillman continued his arraignment of trusts and monopolies and again charged that the Attorney General was responsible primarily for lack of action against the trusts.

Mr. Spooner announced that several other Senators wished to speak on the resolution, and it went over. Mr. Foraker (Ohio) then spoke in favor of the omnibus statehood bill. McLaughlin (Miss.) called attention to the charge that the people of Indianola, Miss., has been guilty of threats and intimidation against the postmaster and declared the charges to be untrue, remarking that his object in bringing the matter to the attention of the Senate was in order that his denial might go into the Congressional Record as an answer to those who made the charge.

Without further amendment the army appropriation bill was passed by the House. The consideration of the department of commerce bill was then begun under a special rule making it a continuing order until disposed of. The Democrats opposed the measure on the ground that the transfer of the bureau of labor to the new department would subordinate that department to a department which would represent capitalistic interests. The Republicans denied this assumption.

Friday, Jan. 16.

The House devoted the day to private war claims, passing about twenty. The two features of the day were the defeat of a claim of B. F. Moody & Co. of Keokuk, Iowa, for the payment of the amount deducted from their contract for furnishing equipment to the Third Iowa cavalry by the famous commission which unearthed the army contract frauds in St. Louis in 1862, and the fight of Mr. Payne, the floor leader of the majority, against an omnibus resolution to refer ninety Southern claims, aggregating \$400,000, for stores and supplies taken by the Union army during the civil war, to the Court of Claims for finding of fact under the Tucker act. The former bill led to a lively controversy between two Iowa members, Messrs. Smith and Hedge. Mr. Hitt of Illinois, the chairman of the foreign affairs committee, was the stenographer of the commission, and was able personally to corroborate Mr. Hedge in his opposition to the bill. The combination in favor of the omnibus claims resolution was too strong for Mr. Payne, but on the final vote the quorum failed. As the previous question has been ordered, the vote on the adoption of the resolution will be the first thing in order on the next claims day. Among the bills passed was one to pay \$5,583 to Mrs. John A. Darling for damages growing out of her arrest by the military authorities of New Orleans in 1864, while famous sea-relief is stolen.

Rome cable: It is reported here that the famous sea-relief, "The Descent from the Cross," by Luca Della Robbia, has been stolen from the church of San Severo, Florence. The masterpiece is valued at \$100,000.

Deaths of Inventor Gobet. Paris cable: M. Gobet, the inventor of the submarine torpedo-boat bearing his name, who announced Jan. 11, was recently killed in an accident for the invention, is dead.

she was on a flag of truce boat under safe conduct.

The senate was not in session.

Saturday, Jan. 17.

The day in the house was devoted to debate upon the Senate bill to establish a Department of Commerce and Labor, a substitute being finally passed by a vote of 187 to 40.

The senate was not in session.

Monday, Jan. 19.

Mr. Cullom reported the legislative executive and judicial appropriation bill to the senate and gave notice he would call it up to-morrow. Mr. Bailey of Texas objected to consideration by unanimous consent of all bills from the Republican side on the ground that the Senators from New York had interfered with a matter purely local to the state of Texas. A discussion arose which was terminated by Mr. Cullom moving an executive session to consider the Cuban reciprocity treaty. After half an hour in executive session, the doors were reopened and Mr. Foraker continued his remarks favoring statehood for Oklahoma, Arizona and New Mexico.

Several miscellaneous measures were passed by the house among them the Senate Hawaiian fire claims bill. The consular and diplomatic appropriation bill, the third of the regular budgets, was passed, and fair progress was made with the District of Columbia appropriation bill. During consideration of the diplomatic bill, Mr. McClellan (N. Y.) precipitated a discussion concerning our diplomatic and consular service, which took a wide range and led to some rather scandalous charges against our consular representatives in Mexico by Mr. Slayden (Texas). Mr. McClellan submitted figures to show that our consulates, compared with those of other first-class countries, were underpaid, but overnamed. Mr. Grosvenor (Ohio) declared the charges against our consular officials were unjustified, maintaining that it was the opinion of European publicists that we had the most efficient consular service in the world.

### FORMER MAYOR HEWITT IS DEAD

Noted New York Politician Passes Away at Age of 81.

Abram S. Hewitt, former Mayor of New York and for many years representative in Congress, died at 8 o'clock Sunday morning in his eighty-first year, having been critically ill for ten days. With him at the moment of death were his wife, his three sons and three daughters.

Mr. Hewitt, who has been in feeble health for some months, was attacked with obstructive jaundice Jan. 8, and from the first it was realized by his attending physicians that there was practically no hope of the aged patient's recovery. On the following Sunday it was thought that Mr. Hewitt could not survive the night and the members of his family were summoned to his bedside, but his wonderful vitality kept him alive for a week longer.

### MAN AND WOMAN BREAK JAIL

Prisoners in Peoria Prison Escape by Using a Case Knife.

Peoria, Ill., special: A daring jail delivery occurred here, two prisoners escaping from the third floor of the Peoria county jail by means of a rope made from the blankets on their beds. Fred Smith, accused of being a horse thief, and Veda White are the fugitives. Sheriff Potter had confined Smith, the White woman, Smith's wife, who was allowed to visit him, and one other woman in a large cell. Smith got a case knife and removed the screws which held the bars in place. The prisoners were met outside the jail by Earl Updike, who drove them to a railroad station outside the city.

### FINDS CITY OFFICIALS GUILTY

Jury Sustains Charge of Malfeasance in Office at Belleville, Ill.

Belleville, Ill., special: Fred F. Vandenberg, mayor; William D. West, city clerk, and John Strycklin, commissioner of streets, charged with malfeasance in office, were found guilty in the St. Clair County Court. Vandenberg was given two years in prison and a fine of \$500. Strycklin was sentenced to one year and West's punishment was left to the court.

### WRECKS JOLIET BARBER SHOP

Gas Explosion Injures Two of the Tonsorial Artists.

Joliet, Ill., special: An explosion of gas in Joliet's business center caused much excitement. A leak in the mains was under investigation when the explosion occurred, wrecking Zeigert's barber shop and injuring two barbers. Scores of people had narrow escapes. A three-story business block at the corner of Jefferson and Ottawa streets is in a partial state of collapse.

### Sword for Admiral Taylor

Indianapolis, Ind., dispatch: Governor Durbin has signed senate bill No. 1 appropriating \$1,500 for a sword for Admiral Taylor, former commander of the battleship Indiana. The sword is to be completed by Feb. 18, and will cost \$1,200.

### Finland is Russified

Copenhagen cable: "Finland is at last Russified. There will be no need of more crushing measures." This is the message received here from Helsinki, Finland. It is estimated that 400,000 people are starving.

### Declines an Honor

Indianapolis, Ind., dispatch: Mortimer Loring of this city, who was elected president of the American Home Show association at Knoxville City, said that he would not accept.

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE

## Measures Under Consideration in the Capitol at Springfield.

### SENATE COMMITTEES READY

Dem. Rumor Assigns the Chairmanships in the Upper House—Speaker Miller List is Still Unfinished—More Pay for State Officials.

The standing committees of the senate are practically made up by the committee appointed to select the committee. This committee consists of Senators Evans, Hughes, Pemberton, Campbell and Berry. It is understood that the principal committee chairmanships will be distributed in this way: Appropriations, Gardner; banks and banking, Small; corporations, Hall; judiciary, Humphrey; insurance, Berry; enrolled and engrossed bills, Pemberton; municipalities, Mueller; warehouses, Farnum; live stock and dairying, Hughes; civil service reform, Jui; waterways and drainage, Clark; education, Fuller; mines and mining, Hamilton; county and township organization, Andrus; rules, McKenzie; contingent expenses, Campbell; roads and bridges, McCabe; railroads, Townsend; licenses and miscellaneous, Evans; military, Fort; canals and rivers, Barr; elections, Riley; agriculture, Dunlap; public accounts, Parker.

This last is a new committee created to receive and act on certain bills, which Senator Parker proposes to introduce. Senator Parker has a plan of uniform accounts to be kept by state institutions and this he will embody in bills he has prepared. By this system, Senator Parker holds, a comparison of the workings in the different state institutions can be made from the biennial reports of the various state boards.

### Miller Still at Work

Speaker Miller said that he is not ready to make announcements as to any chairmanships at present. The house committees will not be announced till next week. Gossip has it that Curtis will head the committee on appropriations; Owens, civil service reform; Chipperfield, penal and reformatory institutions; Morris, elections; Drew, labor and industrial affairs; Lindy, judiciary, and Saurtwell, live stock and dairying.

### To Discuss Convict Labor

The various convict-labor bills introduced are sure to provoke considerable discussion during the session. The Chipperfield bill proposes that convicts shall be employed as far as possible in making supplies for inmates in other state institutions. The Drew bill contemplates employment of convicts in making road material, making roads, and working on the Illinois and Michigan canal.

The methods of the Chipperfield bill have been in operation in New York for several years, and Mr. Chipperfield says the results there are satisfactory to all concerned, according to the late reports of the New York prison authorities. Objection to the Drew bill that may be urged is that some of its provisions approach the chain-gang system such as is in vogue in a number of Southern states, but which has been rejected by all Northern states.

### Propose Salary Increase

A bill to increase the salaries of all principal state officers in Illinois will be presented to the legislature. A careful canvass of the two houses has been made and there is every reason to believe the bill can be passed. The schedule of salaries to be presented in this bill is as follows: Governor, \$10,000 or \$12,000; attorney general, \$7,500; secretary of state, \$6,000; auditor public accounts, \$6,000; treasurer, \$6,000; lieutenant governor, \$2,500.

This is a big increase, amounting to almost 100 per cent for all these officials. None of the present officials can benefit by the new schedule as the constitution forbids the changing of the pay of an official during the term for which he was elected.

There is also talk of a bill to increase the salaries of members of the legislature. Under the present law members receive \$1,000 for each session, making a senator's job worth \$2,000 and a house member's \$1,000. In addition they receive \$5 per day for service during an extra session, called by the governor. The proposition now under discussion is to raise the pay to \$2,000 per session.

### Child Labor Law

The new child labor bill will be introduced at Springfield this week. The measure was declared ready for passage by a committee of the Child-Saving league after a meeting at Hull House, Chicago.

Among the additions to the proposed bill is a section defining dangerous occupations from which child laborers are to be barred. Sixty-kinds of employment are listed.

### New Coal Company

The Ideal Coal company has been organized with a capital stock of \$50,000, for the purpose of sinking a shaft near Pochontas. A six and a half-foot vein of coal has been found at a depth of 225 feet.

### Was Pioneer of Marion

Mrs. Margaret Siple, widow of the late Solomon Siple, and a pioneer resident of Marion county, died at her home, eight miles east of Salem. She was 73 years old.

these are the operating machinery and elevators, the manufacture of paints and colors, operation of circular and hand saws and stamping machines, working among powerful acids and tending steam boilers.

The section regarding proof of the age of child laborers was strengthened by the insertion of a clause providing for the presentation of a certificate of birth, baptism and school attendance before the issuance of a labor permit.

### Issuance of Certificates

The new bill lifts from the shoulders of the factory inspector the responsibility of investigating age certificates by saying the certificates issued generally by the school authorities. A section aimed against the transfer of certificates provided for a description of the child to whom it is issued. No child may be employed who cannot read and write.

The employment of children under 14 years of age in concert halls or theaters where liquor is sold is prohibited. The employment of girls under 16 years of age where they must constantly stand is prohibited. No person under 16 years old may be permitted to work more than six hours a week, or ten hours a day, and such employment must be between 6 a. m. and 7 p. m.

Parents or guardians permitting children under age to labor are made liable to a fine of from \$5 to \$100. Falsely attesting to age certificates is to be punished by a fine of from \$5 to \$25. Employers violating the law are made liable to fines of from \$5 to \$100.

### Local Option

The local option bill prepared by the Anti-saloon league of Illinois will be introduced in both senate and house this week, and ministers from the pulpit of at least 1,000 Illinois churches will deliver sermons in accord with the saloon reform movement next Sunday. A letter campaign conducted by Superintendent William H. Anderson of the league has preceded this movement for the proposed local option bill. Thousands of letters have been mailed to clergymen and prominent church workers in the state. The missives call upon the church people to instruct their representatives in the legislature to vote for the bill.

### Judicial Reapportionment

Republican state leaders are formulating plans for a judicial apportionment of the state as a means of strengthening the organization in southern Illinois and rewarding some of the faithful who stood by Miller and Hopkins in the speakership and senatorial contests. The details of the plan are not disclosed, but it is known that a scheme is under consideration to gerrymander the second, third and fourth judicial circuits, which are now solidly Democratic. The first district, which takes in the southernmost part of the state, is strongly Republican, all the constituent counties with the exception of Union being Republican. The second, third and fourth districts comprise twenty-eight counties bounding the first district on the north. These three districts, it is figured, can be made Republican by adding counties from the first district and the fifth and sixth districts, all of which are solidly Republican and all of which elected three Republican judges each in 1897.

The state was apportioned into judicial circuits in 1897. Each district elected three judges for a term of six years, the salaries being \$2,500 a year. The terms of the incumbent, therefore, will expire next June and those who have discussed the plan say the Republicans, having a big majority in both branches of the legislature, ought to have little trouble in making the apportionment to suit themselves. The Sherman men, it is asserted, would not dare to bolt an appointment measure, and in fact would not be vitally interested in a southern judicial gerrymander in view of the fact that most of them live in the northern part of the state.

### To Draft Convict Bill

Governor Yates' labor commission and the members of the legislative committee appointed by the state federation of labor met jointly at the Leland hotel and appointed a subcommittee to draft a convict labor bill. The subcommittee was instructed to draw a bill that the laboring interests will agree on and present it at another joint meeting to be held here next Thursday. The subcommittee was named as follows: Adam Menche, president State Federation of Labor; C. L. Fieldstack of Chicago and David Higgins of Murphysboro, members of the legislative committee of the State Federation of Labor; C. L. McClure, president of the Chester penitentiary board; E. J. Murphy, warden of the Joliet penitentiary, and M. M. Mallory, superintendent of the Pontiac reformatory.

Springfield is coming to the front again with her demands for another appropriation for the "state arsenal," which is another name for the state convention hall the state is paying for. When the last assembly voted \$150,000 Springfield agreed to give the ground and see that the building was completed without further state aid.

### Goes to State Normal

Miss Edith Hall, for five years past a teacher in the Springfield teachers' training school, has accepted the position of critic teacher in the northern state normal school at Defalk, to have charge of the work in the third and fourth grades.

### Carpenter's Rate Paid

Anderson union carpenters announced that their wage scale for the year will be 25 cents an hour, an increase of 5 cents.

# ILLINOIS STATE

### INSURANCE FOR THE FIREMEN

Members of Alton Department to the Life and Accident Policies. Subscriptions have been received toward a fund for paying the premiums on accident and life insurance for the members of the Alton fire department. The fund is known as the citizens' firemen's indemnity fund. The plan adopted by the Alton people who have subscribed is to insure every member of the fire department, and to give to each one \$1,000 accident insurance, and \$1,000 life insurance. The gift will be with the compliments of some of the friends of the members. It is announced that enough money has been subscribed to insure the success of the movement. The firemen will be given an indemnity for five weeks in case of injury by accident while in the line of duty. The whole matter came as a pleasant surprise to the members of the fire department, who were not informed of the plan to give them free insurance in addition to that they carry individually.

### ROLLER CRUSHES SNOWDRIFTS

Madison County Farmers Use Novel Method to Clear Roads.

Farmers in the western part of Madison county are using a monster steam roller to clear roadways of large drifts of snow. When they undertook to shovel or scrape back the snow they found it so firm and low that they could not handle it. It was decided to bring out a big machine used for rolling the roads. With a full head of steam it was turned into several large drifts of snow that were fairly crushed. The snow was packed so hard that horses and wagons that followed made but slight impression on the surface. Some good stretches for sleighing were left in this condition, but where drifts were the most troublesome the snow that was rolled down was then picked up in huge cakes and tossed to the side of the road, or stacked up like so much timber.

### SUDDEN DEATH OF RICH FARMER

Fred W. Hake of Washington County Dies of Paralysis.

While driving from his country home to Hugel, preparatory to boarding train for Nashville, Fred W. Hake, one of the wealthiest and most influential farmers of Washington county, was stricken with paralysis, resulting in his death shortly afterward. He was one of the first settlers of the county. He served as local pastor for the German Methodist Episcopal congregation in the absence of a regular minister. He was 75 years old.

### Makes Terms With Road

After several weeks of contention the difficulty between the city of Salem and the Baltimore and Ohio Southwestern railroad company has been satisfactorily adjusted. The city council accepted the terms offered by the railroad company, the latter agreeing to give the city its former train service and pay all costs of the suits. The city council ordinance was repealed by the council.

### Divides His Property

George Pasfield of Springfield has conveyed 2,500 acres of land in Christian county to his three children, Mrs. Emma Kreider Arthur Pasfield and George Pasfield, Jr. The consideration was \$1. The land is valued at more than \$200,000 and embraces all the real estate holdings of Mr. Pasfield in the county.

### Civil Service Test

A civil service examination will be held in Springfield Feb. 3 for electrical assistant in the signal service at large, and on Feb. 3 and 4 for machinist and electrical instrument maker in the same service.



FREE CARNEGIE LIBRARY AT JERSEVILLE, ILL.

A Carnegie library is to be built at Jerseyville, the donation by Mr. Carnegie being \$15,000. The Jerseyville building will have space for 25,000 volumes, and will have general reading-room, juvenile reading-room, reference-room.

### Murphysboro Teachers' Union

The permanent organization of a school teachers' union was effected at Murphysboro by the election of the following officers: E. J. Shuman, president; E. H. Rogers, vice president; H. A. Keeley, recording secretary; E. J. Klomma, financial secretary; Miss Gertrude Stephens, treasurer. The membership is about forty, including all of the teachers of Murphysboro. The intention is to erect a union building.

### Parm Bergin

Mrs. Julia D. Bergin, widow of her late husband, containing the will of her late husband, was filed in the court of the county of Madison, Illinois, on the 11th day of January, 1900. The will is as follows: I, the said Julia D. Bergin, do hereby give, devise and bequeath unto my dear and beloved husband, the said Julia D. Bergin, the sum of \$2,500.