



ENACTING LAWS FOR THE NATION

Review of the Legislation Before Both Houses of Congress.

OUTLINE OF DAILY ROUTINE

Special Correspondents Tell of the Business Transacted by Senators and Representatives in Session at the Capital.

Wednesday, March 23.

Senator Dick took the oath of office at the opening of the senate session. Consideration of the Indian appropriation bill was resumed. A controversy over Choctaw Indian land leases dating back to President Harrison's administration was revived in the morning by a claim of \$60,000 of J. H. Byrher, an attorney in making the leases. Mr. Patterson moved to amend the amendment by reducing the amount to \$25,000, and in this form the original was lost, 25 to 23. The amendment to exempt farmers at Indian agencies from civil service rules was agreed to and after two minutes' executive session the senate adjourned. The house disposed of only six pages of the postoffice appropriation bill, although it made considerable progress in reading the bill for amendment. The appropriation for inland mail transportation by star routes was scaled from \$2,100,000 to \$7,500,000. An amendment by Mr. Tawney of Minnesota fixing the life of a postal car at fifteen years, by providing that none be retained in the service after having been used so long, was agreed to. An unsuccessful fight was made to cut off the appropriations for special mail facilities over trunk lines south of Washington and west of Kansas City. The house accepted an amendment by Mr. Hughes of Iowa providing that the postoffice department shall make no contracts for supplies made by convict labor. Laying aside the postoffice appropriation bill, the house considered a bill extending to Feb. 28, 1917, the time for completion of a bridge across the Missouri river at Kansas City.

Thursday, March 24.

The senate passed the Indian appropriation bill. It was amended so as to permit the attendance of Alaska Indians at the Indian school in Salem, Oregon, and to pay for their transportation to and from the school. Other amendments agreed to were as follows: Reappropriating \$50,000 originally appropriated for an Indian school at Mandan, N. D., so as to make it available for a school at Diamark; an amendment by Mr. Dill providing for the payment of \$200 each to the eighteen Sioux Indians for the rescue of white women and children from the Santee Sioux reservation; an amendment to remove the Indian warehouses from St. Louis and Omaha was defeated. Mr. Bacon raised the question of civil service appointments, contending that the southern states practically were disfranchised under a Republican administration. Mr. Gibson spoke in support of the bill for the repeal of the desert land and stone laws and of the commutation clause of the homestead law. The following bills were passed: Authorizing the annual collection of statistics regarding births and deaths in registration areas; authorizing the state of South Dakota to select school and indemnity lands in the ceded portion of the great Sioux reservation. The house again put itself on record against any investigation of the postoffice appropriation bill. An amendment was passed making it mandatory on the postmaster general to enter into a contract for marine postal service for the year 1917, at a rate of \$1,500 a year. The chair sustained a point of order by Mr. Mann against the provision in the bill that rural carriers after Jan. 1, 1918, shall not solicit business or receive orders of any kind during their hours of employment, or carry merchandise for hire. The section for the purchase of the postoffice department, thus consolidating the several postal divisions of the department, was struck out of the bill.

Friday, March 25.

In the Senate Mr. Hansbrough charged that the movement to secure the repeal of the desert land and the timber and stone laws and the commutation clause of the homestead act was due to the efforts of a lobby composed mainly of the holders of lands bought in large tracts from railroad companies. He held that the repeal of these laws would increase the demand for their property. Senator Dubois intimated that the pressure for repeal was due to the large holdings of forest lands by the railroad companies. Mr. Nevada favored modification of the law. The bill making appropriations for the support of the District of Columbia was passed. The Senate took up the private pension calendar, passing a large number of bills.

The House passed the postoffice appropriation bill, after a prolonged debate.

Plan to End Strike.

Trinidad, Col., dispatch: Delegates of the coal miners' unions of southern Colorado held a convention here to consider a proposition to return to work on the terms in effect when the strike was inaugurated last fall.

Rain Benefits Wheat.

Salina, Kan., special: The only rain of consequence in months fell throughout central Kansas, thoroughly soaking the ground. Wheat was badly in need of moisture.

Low Dividend.

London cablegram: The Bank of England has declared a semi-annual dividend of 4 1/2 per cent, the first time in seven years. It has been low 10 per cent since 1910.

Two Are Scalded to Death.

Niles, Mich., dispatch: An extra west-bound Michigan Central freight train was wrecked four miles west of here and Engineer Edward French and brakeman Frank E. Young of Jackson were scalded to death.

Prize for Airship.

Paris cablegram: M. Deutsch has offered a prize of \$5,000 for the first flying machine making a flight in a circle of one kilometer. Ernest Archdeacon has added a like sum and has appealed to the sporting press for further subscriptions.

Declares Corporation Illegal.

Judge Humphrey dismissed the suit of the Peoria gas and electric company and dissolved the injunction restraining the city of Peoria on the ground that the company was an illegal combination. The company immediately appealed to the United States Supreme Court.

Losses Money and Clothes.

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on the paragraph affecting rural letter carriers. This was attacked on Thursday, but restored under a special order of the committee on rules. It lowers salaries to \$720 a year and prohibits the soliciting of business or the reception of orders by carriers from any person, firm or corporation, but permits the carriers, under certain restrictions, to carry merchandise for hire and upon the request of patrons residing on the routes. The paragraph appropriating \$5,000 for the salary of a purchasing agent for the Postoffice Department was restored and passed. The fortifications appropriation bill to conference, with the committee on the part of the House.

Saturday, March 26.

The Senate continued consideration of the District of Columbia appropriations bill. Senators Hoar and McCumbe spoke in favor of a high-pressure water system for Washington. Mr. Foraker gave notice that the services in memory of the late Senator Hanna would be held April 7 instead of March 31.

The House began consideration of the sundry civil appropriation bill. Chairman Hinshaw of the appropriations committee estimated the expenditures for 1916 at \$24,302,324, to which must be added the interest on the public debt estimated at \$24,571,820. The revenues for the year are estimated at \$704,472,000. Several minor bills were passed by unanimous consent. An appropriation was made for the consideration of pension bills which had the right of way. It was decided that after the sundry civil bill has been passed the omnibus claims bill will follow as a special order. Mr. Poirer of North Carolina attacked the Republican party. He mentioned the failure to suppress all trusts and said the party had broken its promise in failing to build up the merchant marine and to ratify reciprocity treaties. Mr. Baker of New York spoke in opposition to ship subsidies.

Monday, March 28.

The senate for three hours discussed the recent order of the pension bureau making old age an evidence of disability. The discussion was based on the resolution of Mr. Carmack directing the judiciary committee to investigate the authority of the executive branch of the government to make such an order. Mr. Carmack held that no such order exists, but several Republicans argued that the order is in line with the regulation issued by Judge Lochren, pension commissioner under President Cleveland, who fixed 65 years as evidence of disability. The bill of Mr. Carmack was passed. Mr. Hoar gave notice that he would move next Monday to take up the bill for the protection of the president. Mr. Proctor presented a partial report on the army appropriation bill, which was accepted and a further conference ordered.

The sundry civil bill was before the house, but the debate took a wide range. Mr. Gillett (Mass.) evoked considerable time in answering some of the statements recently made on the floor by Mr. Wright (Miss.) regarding the race question. Mr. Clark (Mo.) made a speech on the tariff and declared in favor of the tariff program for the Democratic

party as outlined recently by Mr. Williams, the leader of the minority. A strong plea for the tobacco growers was made by Mr. Trimble (Ky.), who urged the removal of the tax of one cent a pound on raw tobacco in order that the producer might sell directly to the consumer.

THANKS JUDGE FOR SENTENCE

Indiana Murderer is Grateful When Death Penalty is Pronounced. Terre Haute, Ind., dispatch: Late last night the jury in the trial of Jerry Duggins for the murder of Mrs. Sarah Ramsay and her two children, Berle and Marie, returned a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree against the prisoner. Judge Piety immediately sentenced Duggins to be hanged by the neck until dead before sunrise on the morning of July 8 at the Michigan City prison. "All I have to say is that I thank you all," was Duggins' reply after the sentence had been pronounced.

BURNS TO DEATH IN HER HOME

Grand Niece of Horatio Seymour Victim of Accident at Detroit. Detroit, Mich., dispatch: Miss Bertha Vanderkamp Green, daughter of a former prominent attorney of Syracuse, N. Y., and a well-known young woman in the cities of central New York, was burned to death in her home on Woodward terrace here. She had gone into the basement before daylight, and it is supposed ignited her clothing with a match. She lived but a few hours. Miss Green was a grand niece of Horatio Seymour, the war governor of New York.

Recluse is Found Dead.

Richard Sommers, a bachelor, who had been leading a secluded life on a farm west of Nashville, was found dead at his home. From all appearances, life had been extinct for several days. Deceased was a pioneer of Washington county and had attained an age of 71 years.

Interurban Station.

The old Leader works west of Decatur will be converted into a substation for the McKinley interurban street railway system. The main power plant will be at Riverton, and Decatur will be a distributing point for power. Ample room will be afforded for storage of cars.

Gets Half of Pension.

A decision has been given by the pension commissioner that Mrs. Mattie Gollehur of Alton is entitled to half her husband's pension. Gollehur has asked for a rehearing of the case. Gollehur received a pension of \$12 a month and his wife charges that he fails to support her.

Death of Pioneer Woman.

Mrs. Lydia Squire died at her home in Godfrey, aged 83. She had been a resident of Godfrey nearly fifty years and was the oldest person in Godfrey township.

Mattoon Presbytery.

The Mattoon presbytery of the Presbyterian church will meet in Taylorville on April 19. This body represents thirty-four churches.

Teacher Is Ill.

Miss Mae Peters, a teacher in the Lockhaven school, is confined to her home in Alton by nervous shock as the result of a narrow escape from being run down by an engine as she stepped from a train at that place.

Township High School Election.

In response to a petition, the township school trustees of Alton have not been called on to elect a school board at the next election.

Losses Money and Clothes.

Henry N. Thompson's home on the Edwardsville rock road, near Granite City, was robbed at about 10 o'clock of \$1,000 and a quantity of clothes.

LABORER IS CRUSHED BY COAL

Contents of Car Fall on Him When Spring is Released. James Downey, a laborer, 42 years of age, living at Fireworks Station, near East St. Louis, was almost instantly killed while assisting in unloading coal cars in the Suburban electric railway yards. These cars are unloaded by drawing a lever and permitting the contents to pass through a trap in the bottom. Downey had gone under a car to arrange the trap, which had failed to work, when the spring flew back and twenty-five tons of coal fell on him. A force of workmen went to his assistance and he was dug out as quickly as possible and hurried to a hospital, but died before he reached the institution. He leaves a widow and two children.

BRINGS UNUSUAL DAMAGE SUIT

Wife Charges Saloonkeepers With Responsibility of Husband's Crime. Judge F. M. Youngblood of Carbondale has entered suit in Perry county against six saloonkeepers of Pinckneyville and Du Boise for \$10,000 damages. The case is brought in behalf of Mrs. John Corgan and her two children, owing to the imprisonment of her husband, John Corgan, in the Chester penitentiary for fourteen years for manslaughter. Mrs. Corgan alleges that the selling of liquor to her husband has deprived her and her children of their visible means of support and therefore asks damages. Corgan killed Charles Smith while in a drunken frenzy in Pinckneyville in December, 1912.

Suspender Button Stops Bullet.

Patrolman Otto Worden of East St. Louis was shot from close range by a man supposed to be a burglar. The bullet went through Worden's coat and fattened against a suspender button without inflicting any damage. Worden was walking his beat when he was attracted by a noise that resembled the breaking of a window. He had no sooner reached the spot when he was fired upon by the man, who afterward beat a hasty retreat. Worden gave chase, but was outdistanced.

Heavy Rains Flood Houses.

The heavy rains have caused a number of small houses near the old Boisemue lake in the northeastern portion of East St. Louis to become flooded. John Edwards, an occupant of one of the houses, petitioned the city authorities to compel his landlord to raise his house above the water of the lake. Thomas Johns was compelled to remove to a place where his family would be secure.

Orders Mine Closed.

The state mine inspector has ordered the mine of the Williamsville Coal company at Williamsville closed because it is considered unsafe. It will take about three months to get the mine in shape. About 160 men are thrown out of employment. The loss to the company is about \$50 per day.

To Speak for Good Roads.

Gov. Yates has consented to deliver the address of welcome at the meeting of the state good roads convention at Springfield on May 3 and 4. Other speakers will be Senator A. C. Lattimer, South Carolina; Hon. Martin Dodge, Washington; Hon. Adlai Stevenson, Bloomington.

Life Sentence for Assault.

Ben Lee, the negro who narrowly escaped a lynching at Greenville last summer, has been sentenced to the penitentiary for life by Judge D. B. Burroughs. Lee pleaded guilty to an assault. His victim was Miss May Larrabee, who was assaulted in the presence of her mother, a paralytic.

Gets Half of Pension.

A decision has been given by the pension commissioner that Mrs. Mattie Gollehur of Alton is entitled to half her husband's pension. Gollehur has asked for a rehearing of the case. Gollehur received a pension of \$12 a month and his wife charges that he fails to support her.

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OLD SCHOOL IS SOLD.  
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HONOR FOR OLNEY TEACHER.  
Prof. G. D. Wham, principal of the Olney public schools, will preside at the meeting of the Southern Illinois Teachers' association, to be held at Cairo March 31 to April 2.

THROWS OIL ON FIRE.  
Emma Reupert, employed in an Edwardsville home, has been wearing a mask, her face having been burned by an explosion of coal oil which she threw on the kitchen fire.

STONE AND PLASTER COMPANY.  
George Ferce, John H. Oren, R. F. Stanley and W. H. Fisher have organized the Decatur hydraulic stone and hard plaster company.

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