

WHAT CONGRESS HAS DONE.

The Session Now Practically Closed the Busiest in Many Years.

Washington, June 3.—The record of the first session of the Fifty-sixth congress is now practically closed, and it is possible to survey the important work it has accomplished during the last six months. It has been a busy congress—the busiest, according to veteran officials, in many years. In some respects the work has been less exciting than that of the preceding congress, which covered the dramatic period when war was declared against Spain, and also the period of reconstruction and treaty-making with Spain following the successful close of the war.

But in work actually accomplished and sought toward accomplishment the record of the present session stands well in comparison with the most energetic congresses.

Our new territorial possessions have received much attention, and while there has been no definite action as to the Philippines or Cuba, a form of government and a means of raising revenue have been provided for Porto Rico and a comprehensive territorial form of government has been given to Hawaii.

The Financial Act has made important changes in the laws relating to parity of metals, the bonded indebtedness, national banks and the security of the treasury by a gold reserve. The Nicaragua canal bill has passed the house and is on the calendar of the senate, ready for attention when congress reconvenes. The anti-trust bill is similarly advanced, the anti-trust constitutional amendment has a defeat recorded against it. The Pacific cable measure has passed the senate and is awaiting

Final Action in the House. The exclusion of Brigham H. Roberts from a seat in the house because of his polygamous status, the refusal of the senate to admit Mr. Quay to the appointment of the governor of Pennsylvania, and the sensational charges, investigation and developments in the senate in the case of Mr. Clark of Montana, have added some exciting personal phases to the session. Investigations have been profligate, including the inquiry into the Coeur d'Alene mining riots in Idaho, the various inquiries on polygamy growing out of the Roberts case, and more recently the senate investigation of the postal and other irregularities in Cuba.

The Total of Appropriations cannot yet be stated with exactness, as five bills are pending, but it is approximately \$700,000,000 for the session. The senate in executive session has been occupied to a considerable extent with important treaties. Of these the treaties with Great Britain and Germany, closing the tripartite government in Samoa and awarding to the United States the island of Tutuila, with its valuable harbor of Pago-Pago, have been ratified, while the commercial reciprocity treaties with France and the British West India islands and the Hay-Pauncefote treaty concerning the interoceanic canal, go over without action.

Of the legislation actually accomplished and now on the statute books, the financial act is regarded as the great achievement of the year. The noteworthy feature of the debate on this measure in the house was that party lines were broken to some extent, a number of Democratic members from the Eastern and New England states joining with the majority in passing it. In the senate also party lines were not entirely regarded, Senators Lindsay and Caffrey voting for the measure and Mr. Chandler against it. As it became a law by the president's signature on March 14, it makes specific the declaration of

The Gold Standard, provides a treasury reserve of \$150,000,000, establishes a division of issue and redemption of the treasury, provides for the redemption and release of interest-bearing bonds of the United States and makes new regulations as to national banks, their circulation, establishment in small communities and the tax they pay. The act also contains a specific declaration that its provisions "are not intended to preclude the accomplishment of international bimetallicism."

Porto Rico Legislation has been the most fruitful theme of controversy in and out of congress during the session. The discussion first turned on the revenue bill, levying a duty of 15 per cent of the Dingley rates on Porto Rico goods. The majority of the ways and means committee urged the constitutionality and necessity of this course, while the minority, reinforced by Mr. McCall of Massachusetts, a member of the majority, maintained that the legislation of the United States extended to Porto Rico and that congress was inaugurating a new and dangerous precedent by giving the island any other law than that of the rest of the country.

Excitement Ran High under the spur of widespread public attention. The debate in the house was signaled by the division of the majority, which for a time made the result doubtful, but the bill ultimately passed. The contest in the senate was animated but less acute. The senate changed the entire scope of the measure by adding a complete form of civil government. In this form, raising revenue and establishing an island government, the measure became a law. Subsequently it was amended so as to limit corporate franchises, and on the president's recommendation an act was passed appropriating for the use of Porto Rico the \$2,065,455 collected from island sources since its acquisition.

Government for Hawaii. Next in importance in the accomplished work of the session is the act "to provide a government for the territory of Hawaii." The debates on it in the senate and house aroused little division, save

Not Worth Mentioning. "I have several reasons for not buying the horse," said the man. The first is that I haven't the price, and—"You needn't mention the others," interrupted the owner.—Philadelphia North American.

The industrial commission has prepared a programme of hearings this month when witnesses in regard to agriculture, horticulture, general labor conditions at the South and compulsory arbitration will appear.

HOMESEEEKERS' EXCURSIONS

Via Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad On the first and third Tuesdays of June, July and August the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad will place on sale Homeseekers' Excursion tickets to various points in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indian Territory, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas.

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Tickets are limited on going trip fifteen days from date of sale with stop over privileges in Homeseekers' territory. Returning tickets are limited twenty-one days from date of sale. Remember that we now have in service a new wide vestibule train between Chicago & Waco & Ft. Worth, Texas, leaving Chicago daily at 1.50 p. m. Through Pullman sleeping cars and free reclining chair cars. For further particulars call on or address any agent Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad or C. L. Stone, G. P. & T. A., Chicago.

High Death Rate in Mexico. Last year the death rate in the City of New Mexico was nearly 44 per 1,000, about the same as that of Bombay. It is expected that the opening of a new drainage system which is to take place soon, will cut down the death rate one-half.

No Work for Him. "Madam," he said, suppliantly, "would you be willing to help a man who cannot find anything to do in his legitimate business?" "I might," replied the benevolent creature. "By the way, what is your business?" "I'm a calamity-howler, ma'am."—Judge.

Canal and Shipping Subsidy. The Nicaragua canal bill and the shipping subsidy bill are notable instances of legislation partly advanced during the present session, but not enacted into law.

The canal bill has passed the house and has been made the special order in the senate, beginning Dec. 10 next. The shipping bill is on the calendar of each house, with favorable recommendation from a majority membership of the senate and house committees. Anti-trust legislation has come prominently into attention in the house at the close of the session, the house having passed a new anti-trust bill, and

Defeated a Constitutional Amendment. The senate has passed a bill for a cable to the Philippines and beyond, to be constructed and maintained under government control, but no action has been taken on it in the house.

The restriction of oleomargarine has been productive of considerable agitation, mainly in committees, and a radical restrictive bill has been reported to the house.

The General Pension Laws have been materially changed by the present congress, largely as the result of the efforts of the Grand Army of the Republic, which secured the passage of a bill amending the law of June 27, 1890, so as to permit the "aggregating" of disabilities and changing the provision as to widows, so that a widow may receive a pension when she is "without means of support other than her daily labor, and has an actual net income not exceeding \$250," etc.

The Free Homes Act provides for the patenting of homesteads on the public lands acquired from the Indians on the payment of the usual fees, and no other or further charges. This opens to free homestead entry many millions of acres of public lands in the West, heretofore sold at stated figures per acre.

Another measure passed of some general interest permits the secretary of agriculture to restore game birds which are becoming extinct, and provides means for the restriction of traffic in dead animals, birds, etc., from state to state, the latter provision being in part designed to limit the destruction of song birds for the sale of their plumage.

Among other miscellaneous acts of the session are those for the preservation of the historic frigate Constitution and for extending the work of

The Twelfth Census. Consideration of general legislation is carried on appropriation bills. These provisions include the amendment to the military academy bill making the commanding general of the adjutant general of the army a major general; also the amendment to the sundry civil bill appropriating \$5,000,000 for the St. Louis exposition. Both of these bills are still pending. The naval appropriation bill adds two battleships, three protected cruisers, three armored cruisers and five submarine boats to the naval strength, and may include special legislation as to armor plate and a government plant. The other appropriation bills in the main carry the usual government supplies.

The Alaska Code Bill, giving a complete system of laws to the territory, has passed both houses and undoubtedly will become a law. Other measures which have passed one house or the other but are still pending, include those for the election of senators by the people; authorizing the president to appoint a commission to study commercial conditions in China and Japan; for increasing the efficiency of the army by making service in the staff corps temporary; extending the eight-hour law and increasing the annual allowance to the militia of the country from \$400,000 to \$1,000,000.

What Ailed Him. "You look tired," said Mr. Pitt to Mr. Penn, when the two met on Fifth avenue "what time did you get up this morning?" "Didn't get up." "What do you mean?" "I got down.Came from Philadelphia and slept in an upper berth all night."—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

Unappreciated. First Traveler (cheerily)—Fine day, isn't it? Second ditto (haughtily)—Sir! you have the advantage of me. I don't know you! First T.—Humph! I fail to see the advantage.—Brooklyn Life.

The death is announced of Rev. John C. Lewis, D. D., at East Orange, N. J., one of the foremost workers in the Presbyterian church. He has been confined to his bed but a few days.

Plucking the Poulterer.

"You have some fine turkeys this morning," said the schoolmaster to the poulterer.

"Yes, sir; all fresh from Norfolk today."

"What is the price?"

"You can take your choice, sir. I have them at all prices."

"Well, I want to give my boys a treat, but I don't want them to be too tender. There are a dozen here. Pick out four of the toughest."

"Here, sir, you have four of the toughest birds in my shop."

"Thank you," said the schoolmaster. "I'll take the other eight!"—Tid-Bits.

Blinder Twine at Low Prices. If you want a special inside price on blinder twine, either Sisal, Standard or Manila, cut this notice out and mail to SPARS, ROEBUCK & Co. (Blinder Twine Department), Chicago, stating about how much twine you will require and how soon you will want it, and they will save you money by quoting you a price that will either secure your order or compel the party who supplies you to sell to you at a lower price than he otherwise would.

A Sense of Propriety. "Lady," said Meandering Mike, "did you remind me that dere was some wood in yer yard ready fer to be chopped?" "I said so."

"Lady, didn't you know dere wasn't any exercise in de world better dan chopping wood?"

Well, lady, I need de exercise, an' I knows 'ud do me good. But I'm too proud to come here an' use yer back yard for a gymnasium widout payin' you a cent for it.—Washington Star.

Do Your Feet Ache and Burn? Shake into your shoes Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder for the feet. It makes tight or New Shoes feel Easy. Cures Corns, Bunions, Swollen, Hot and Sweating Feet. At all Druggists and Shoe Stores, 25c. Sample sent FREE. Address Allen S. Olmsted, LeRoy, N. Y.

Merely a Good Listener. Miss Swelltop—Why, goodness gracious! She can't go to the opera tonight.

Miss Bluegore—Is she so ill as all that?

Miss Swelltop—Oh, no; it is just a nervous affection of the throat. She's not really ill.

Miss Bluegore—Why can't she go, then?

Miss Swelltop—Why, goodness gracious! She can't speak above a whisper.

Some articles must be described. White's Yuccatan needs no description; it's the real thing.

Almost Human. "Oh, George!" tearfully exclaimed his wife, meeting him at the door. "That parrot you brought home the other day!"

"What's the matter with him?" asked Mr. Ferguson.

"I don't know. He won't tell me. When I ask him what the trouble is he just swears dreadfully."—Chicago Tribune.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle.

Didn't Seem Hazardous. Ma—If you go out this afternoon, Bonnie, I want you to promise me that you won't go near Harry Gilpin's; he's got the measles, and I'm afraid he might give them to you.

Bonnie—No danger, ma. He was never known to give anybody anything.—Boston Courier.

Send for "Choice Recipes." by Walter Baker & Co. Ltd., Dorchester, Mass., mailed free. Mention this paper.

The Sage of Hanville. I says to Ez Barker: "Ez," I says, "you're the honestest man I ever saw."

"Yes," says Ez, "I want to be honest an' stay pore, so's folks'll stand aroun' after I'm gone an' say, 'Pore Ez, he never accomplished nuttin'.'"

There is no better way to prove to a low bred fellow that he raley is low bred as to keep up yer good manners when you have to be with him.

Piso's Cure is the best medicine we ever used for all affections of the throat and lungs.—Wm. O. ENDSLEY, Vanburen, Ind., Feb. 10, 1900.

Some musical aspirants confine themselves to a base lawl.

Is the colored beauty's complexion what you would call chocolate-creamy?

The goat may take things easy, but it hasn't a soft bunk.

POISONING AT HOME.

The Pantry Is a Prolific Source of Danger to Good Food.

It is very desirable that the conditions under which food may become poisonous should receive more practical consideration than they do. A well known physician has called attention to some glaring defects in the location of food storerooms, which are worthy of attention.

In house construction the position of the pantry is too often treated as of minor importance. In some houses the space under the stairs or some equally unsuitable and inadequately lighted and ventilated space is thought good enough for that purpose. In a great number the pantry is a small offshoot from the house, the ceiling, floor and walls often being damp, owing to faulty construction in some of these matters are rendered worse by the water taps being placed therein without any provision being made for carrying away the drippings from the tap or overflow from vessels into which water is run.

One of the most frequent entries in his inspection note book is "defective yard pavement," permitting the soaking of filth into the soil underneath. Not only filth the soil thus rendered a good breeding ground for pathogenic microbes, but it also supplies those conditions requisite for increased virulence.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

West Virginia's Humor. "I was down in Charleston, W. Va., last week," said Johnny Noon, "looking after a contract, and I noticed a funny thing."

"You know," John went on, "that the motto on the great seal of West Virginia is a Latin lingo something like 'Montana nil non est exto,' meaning 'Mountaineers are always free.' Well, sir, they slap that state seal all around their capital, and as I was going to the penitentiary, I looked up and saw it over the door. There it was, 'Mountaineers are always free.'"

"It may be more cheering to the convicts to read that than the old slogan, 'Abandon hope all ye who enter here,' but it's a blasted lie on the face of it, for all that, for I saw plenty of mountain men wearing the stripes, once I got inside."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Falling of the Hair is caused by dandruff. **Coke Dandruff Cure** will stop it or money refunded. \$1.00.

A Motion to Adjourn. Senator Pettus of Alabama is noted for a ponderous solemnity of manner and a slow and stately manner of oratory, and on account of his great age, is honored by his colleagues. While Senator Spooner was arguing the Quay case Pettus arose.

"I should like to ask the senator to give way for a moment, if he pleases," he remarked, in his funeral way.

"I will agree to anything the senator wants me to," replied Mr. Spooner, smilingly, "except to vote against my convictions on a constitutional question."

"I am not asking you to do that," said Mr. Pettus, "but I want you to give way to a motion."

"Well, what is it?" asked Mr. Spooner.

"It is to adjourn," answered Mr. Pettus, in a melancholy voice and with a smile.

Every member of the senate laughed, and the motion to adjourn was carried.—San Francisco Wave.

Hall's Catarrh Cure Is a constitutional cure. Price, 75c.

Worse'n That. She—You men don't seem to realize that a girl can't imagine anything worse than to have a young man kiss her against her will.

He—No? I should think it would be worse to have us refuse to kiss you when you're willing.—Catholic Standard and Times.

Read the Advertisements. You will enjoy this publication much better if you will get into the habit of reading the advertisements; they will help you in the way of getting some excellent bargains. Our advertisers are reliable; they send what they advertise.

Off-Hand Guess. "Uncle Aleck, what is a piano recital?" "Well, one woman pounds the piano and all the rest talk."—Detroit Free Press.

It's a long street that has no piano organ turning.

A SENATOR'S LETTER.

Peruna as a Nerve and Catarrh Tonic the Talk of the World.

Hon. W. V. Sullivan, U. S. Senator from Mississippi.

Hon. W. V. Sullivan, United States Senator from Mississippi, in a letter recently written to Dr. Hartman from Oxford, Miss., says the following: "For some time I have been a sufferer from catarrh in its most incipient stage, so much so that I became alarmed as to my general health. But, hearing of Peruna as a good remedy, I gave it a fair trial and soon began to improve. Its effects were distinctly beneficial, removing the annoying symptoms, and was particularly good as a tonic."

"I take pleasure in recommending your great national catarrh cure, Peruna, as the best I have ever tried."

"W. V. Sullivan."

Peruna cures catarrh wherever located. Peruna has no substitutes—no rivals. Insist upon having Peruna. Address The Peruna Medicine Co., Columbus, O., for a free book on catarrh.

The Possible Millionaire. Moosley—What would you do if you had \$1,000,000 a year?

Mudge—The assessor, of course.

From the foregoing the casual reader may learn that in America, where even the lowest has a chance to rise, the great middle class is fully alive to and able to assume the plain duties inherent in the possession of wealth.

Angels are supposed to have wings without being flighty.

Save the Labels and write for list of premiums you offer free for them.

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N. W. N. U. —No. 23.— 1900.

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