

URGES CONTROL OF RAILROADS.

Washington, Jan. 8. — President Taft's expected special message on the subject of further legislation dealing with trusts and railroads went to congress Thursday, but was read in only the house, as the senate was not in session.

On the whole the message was well received by the house. By a good many members it was regarded as being radical as anything of the same character proposed by Mr. Roosevelt. There is a pretty general belief in congress that while there is a good show for legislation amending the interstate commerce law along the lines recommended by the president, his proposal of a law for the federal incorporation of interstate corporations was not likely to be acted on at the present session of congress.

To Control Corporations.

The longest step forward taken by the president is his recommendation that congress enact a general law providing "for the formation of corporations to engage in trade and commerce among the states and with foreign nations, protecting them from undue interference by the states and regulating their activities so as to prevent the recurrence under national auspices of those abuses which have arisen under state control." He would have such a law provide that such corporations should issue stock only to an amount for which cash has been paid, or if issued for property to have the federal government pass on its issue. He would require also that such corporations shall file full and complete reports of their operations with the department of commerce and labor and prohibit them from acquiring and holding stock in other corporations except for special occasions approved by the government.

The first part of the president's message is devoted to recommendations for amending the interstate commerce law. The only important change made applies to the proposal to forbid railroad companies from acquiring additional stock in competing railroad companies which they control. As originally outlined railroad companies were either forbidden to acquire any additional stock whatever in competing companies controlled by them or must possess 80 per cent. of the stock of the competing company in order to acquire some or all the remaining 20 per cent. As a result of the representations made by the six railroad presidents last week the message of the president was changed

so as to recommend that a railroad company holding less than 50 per cent of the stock of a competing railroad company could be permitted to acquire the balance of the stock of that competing company.

Urges Creation of Commerce Court.

One of the important recommendations of the president's message is for the creation of a United States court of commerce to hear appeals from decisions of the interstate commerce commission. Other recommendations are that the interstate commerce commission be empowered to investigate alleged excessive rates made by railroad companies of its own initiative, without waiting for complaint to be filed; giving shippers the right to demand a statement from any railroad company of the through rate on any shipment and imposing a fine for failure to comply or for misinformation; permitting the commission to postpone for sixty days the time within which an announced rate is to become effective and prohibiting a railroad company from issuing capital stock without previous payment for it of not less than the par value, or issuing bonds or other obligations except one-year promissory notes without the previous payment of not less than the par value of such bonds or the reasonable market value as ascertained by the interstate commerce commission.

In that part of his message relating to the anti-trust law the president presents arguments for a belief on his part that no amendments to this law are necessary. His general argument is that the United States supreme court has construed the law in such a way as to render unnecessary any legislation to exempt from prosecution interstate business combinations which, while they may seem to violate the letter of the law, do not violate the spirit of it through having an undue restraint on trade.

The president lets it be known that it is his purpose to have the department of justice make an investigation through grand juries or otherwise into the history, organization and purposes of all the industrial companies "with respect to which there is any reasonable ground for suspicion that they have been organized for a purpose and are conducting business on a plan which is in violation of the anti-trust law."

Raw Pork Kills One; Poisons Nine.

Mrs. B. F. Kroeger* is dead and nine members of the families of B. F. Kroeger and C. Dake, farmers living near Fairbury, Neb., are ill from trichina poisoning. More than a week ago the two families ate raw pork sausage. The illness was first supposed to be la grippe. Saturday Mrs. Kroeger died, and two others. It is said, cannot recover. Physicians say the illness is due to trichina, a parasite that sometimes infects raw pork.

Helped Him to Hurry.

Prince Bismarck once told a story of the battlefield of Koeniggratz. The old emperor, then king of Prussia, had exposed himself and his staff to the enemy's fire in a very reckless fashion and would not hear of retreating to a safe distance. At last Prince Bismarck rode up to him, saying: "As a responsible minister I must insist upon your majesty's retreat to a safe distance. If your majesty were to be killed the victory would be of no use to us." The king saw the force of this and, slowly retreated, but in his zeal returned again and again to the front. "When I noticed it," Prince Bismarck went on, "I only rose in my saddle and looked at him. He understood it perfectly and called out rather angrily, 'Yes, I am coming.' But we did not get on fast enough, and at last I rode close up to the king, took my foot out of the right stirrup and secretly gave his horse an energetic kick. Such a thing had never before happened to the fat mare, but the move was successful, for she shot off in a fine canter."

Actions Speak Louder Than Words.

The Sunday school class was singing "I Want to Be an Angel." "Why don't you sing louder, Bobby?" "I'm singing as loud as I feel," explained Bobby. —Dellmeator.

Men's lives are as thoroughly blended with each other as the air they breathe. —Eliot.

—Do you know where you can get a fine fat mess mackerel, bone out, Sechler & Co.

A Woman's Story.

A woman's story is very often a story of suffering if it deals with the period of maternity. A great many such stories have begun with suffering and ended with smiles of happiness because Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription had cured the pain and restored the health. The following is one more story: Mrs. W. J. Kidder, of Hill Dale Farm (Enosburg Center), Enosburg, Vt., writes: "Your kindly advice and medicines have brought me great relief. During the past year I found myself pregnant and in rapidly failing health. I suffered dreadfully from bloating and urinary difficulty. I was growing weaker each day and suffered much sharp pain at times. I felt that something must be done. I sought your advice and received a prompt reply. I took twelve bottles of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, and also followed your instructions. I began to improve immediately, my health became excellent, and I could do all my own work (we live on a good sized farm). I walked and rode all I could, and enjoyed it. I had a short, easy confinement, and have a healthy baby boy."

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Webster's Dictionary.

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