

WORK OF CONGRESS.

Reciprocity Will Be Considered at Length in Both Houses.

Revision of the Tariff Will Also Come Up for Discussion—Real Estate Scheme in McKinley Memorial.

[Special Washington Letter.] EVERY good citizen of the republic is interested in his government. Now that the congress is in session the people will want to know all about the legislative branch of their government; what it is doing and what it proposes to do.

One who has opportunity to watch the statements for a considerable number of years becomes interested in the changes which come over the minds of men who make history for us. For example, in 1890, William McKinley, congressman from Ohio, chairman of the committee on ways and means, indignantly resented the interference of the secretary of state, James G. Blaine, who insisted that the subject of reciprocity should be taken up in a tariff bill. When the same man, McKinley, became president and was charged with the powers and responsibilities of that high office, he championed reciprocity, and his last public utterance was in favor of the pending reciprocity treaties.

One of the leading defenders of reciprocity in the senate to-day is Senator Allison, of Iowa. And yet, the strongest argument ever prepared in opposition to that idea was prepared by Mr. Allison while he was a member of the house of representatives in the Forty-second congress. Mr. Allison then claimed and ably demonstrated that the senate had no constitutional right to originate revenue legislation. He quoted and commented upon the plain statement of the constitution that "all bills for raising revenue shall originate in the house of representatives." Now that he is the leader of the senate, Mr. Allison claims that the constitutional power to "amend" house bills carries with it the right to "substitute" new revenue legislation in the senate. This matter will bring forth many hours of debate during the first session of this congress.

President Roosevelt stands for reciprocity as President McKinley did. Thus, the president, with the aid of the senate, purposes to make reciprocity treaties with some 14 or 15 countries, and thereby declare tariff duties with those countries. This the leaders in the house of representatives will strenuously oppose. They claim that if it is once granted that the president and the senate shall have the power now sought to be exercised, the representatives of the people may have no functions in the future other than to come together for the purpose of passing appropriation bills, and then adjourning. How this problem may be concluded no one can safely predict at this time.

You may hear a great deal about the shipping subsidy bill during the coming months, and will wonder whether or not there will be such legislation. Well, the Fifty-sixth congress began at noon on March 4, 1899, and during that entire session of congress the writer predicted that the bill would not become a law, stating that it had been killed on March 2, 1899, two days before the Fifty-sixth congress came into being. The reason was never given, but it may be given now. When Senator Hanna succeeded in having William R. Merriam made director of the census, he made personal enemies



SENATOR ALLISON. (Leader of the Reciprocity Forces in Congress.)

of very many of the friends of Henry Casson, of Wisconsin, who was endorsed for that place by a large majority of the prominent people of the land. Moreover, Henry Casson himself became sergeant-at-arms of the house of representatives in December, 1899. Henry Casson has been elected sergeant-at-arms of the house of representatives again. Now that you have a glimpse of these few wheels within the big wheels, you can do a little guessing for yourself about the probable fate of the Hanna shipping subsidy bill.

You will read a great deal about proposed changes in the existing tariff law known as the war revenue measure. You know that the administration favors cutting down the tax on beer, whisky and tobacco. Congressman Tawney, of Minnesota, one of the leading members of the committee on ways and means, who will have much to do with revenue legislation, says: "I have no desire to favor the beer, whisky or tobacco men; either the men who manufacture or the men who consume those articles. They are well able to pay the existing taxes, and I should rather reduce duties on articles of ne-

cessity, before favoring luxuries of any sort." Other statements have been uttered similar views; so that you can easily draw the deduction that this also is an open question.

While all of our people are interested in national legislation, because upon it depends our commercial and industrial development, the people of the national capital are particularly interested in two committees of the congress—the senate committee and the house committee on the District of Columbia, for upon those committees we depend for all legislation looking to the development of this wonderful capital city. We depend principally upon Senator McMillan, of Michigan, and Representative Babcock, of Wisconsin, the chairmen of those committees. They take especial interest in the up-



JAMES A. TAWNEY. (Leading Opponent of Reciprocity in the House.)

building of the slowly growing city, which is the seat of government of our proud and prosperous people.

During the last congress these gentlemen secured the enactment of a bill authorizing the building of a new bridge across the Potomac river, north of the old Long bridge, which is to be destroyed because it is a menace to navigation, and often causes the river to back up and overflow a portion of the city. At the Virginia terminus of the new bridge a great trunk line has bought all the property which has been known as Jackson City ever since 1835. The railroad company is tearing down what is left of the old town; and its demolition takes from the face of the earth the vilest gambling dens in this vicinity. The national capital is purer and cleaner by this condition, which has been brought about by the enactment of legislation for the new bridge.

One mile further up the Potomac, at the Virginia end of the Aqueduct bridge, the town of Rosslyn exists, and when the Virginia authorities wipe out that sinkhole of iniquity the criminals of the land will avoid Washington.

When the day shall come that Virginia is free from both of its foul places, this capital will expand across the river, and suburban homes will spring up all over Arlington Heights.

Now, speaking of this prospective development of our city, the story must be completed by telling of the work of the lobby. It will surprise you to learn that there is a lobby interested in the development of that beautiful tract of land. You will be more surprised to learn that they are conjoining with the name of William McKinley to aid them in their money-making schemes.

As soon as McKinley's death was announced you will remember that prominent Ohio people began the project of a memorial to be built at Canton, a memorial in which all of the people of the republic might be interested. That was well. Now, recall the fact that there immediately arose a cry from Washington for the building of a McKinley memorial here—a memorial in the form of a magnificent bridge over the Potomac; a bridge to cost millions of dollars. Now, mark you; this is the scheme of the real estate men who own or are agents for that beautiful property on Arlington Heights. They want this costly and magnificent bridge, not primarily for the perpetuation of the memory of McKinley; not primarily for the patriotic pride in this city which they proclaim, they want that bridge in order that they may sell town lots. What do you think of that?

If you have taken interest in the matter, you have seen that stated in the daily newspapers that Senator Hanna, who was McKinley's closest friend, objects to the proposed memorial at Washington city. He does not publicly give his reasons, but they are understood here. Senator Allison, who, as chairman of the senate committee on appropriations, scrutinizes every dollar appropriated, says that there is no need of a McKinley memorial bridge at this time. He also understands the scheme. Meantime, the town lots must be outdoors under the sky for some years yet, before any bridge shall be built. These memorial bridge people are not the only self-seekers who permeate the swirl and leaven the legislative lump by vigorous lobby work. There is an element of selfishness in every measure under consideration. That wisdom will pervade the councils of the real leaders we may reasonably anticipate because of existent facts. After all, the majority of our legislators are at heart seeking the right, and they usually find it. In brief, there is much more good than bad in every congress; many more men on the side of patriotism and national honor than on the side of weakness and wickedness.

EMITH D. FRY.

WEALTH OF UGANDA.

Travelers Call It the Richest Country in the World.

An African Paradise, Controlled by Great Britain, Whose Resources Will Be Developed at No Distant Date.

[Special Correspondence.]

PERHAPS no portion of the world, at the present time, offers more attractions, or more difficulties and dangers, to the explorer and financier than the territory lying within the borders of the Uganda Protectorate in Africa. Its resources are almost incalculable and a description of a small portion of them might fill volumes. The topographical features of this woodland present such impressive effects in form and color as can nowhere be seen except on the dark continent. The mountain peaks of Ruwenzori are said to be the loftiest in Africa, one of them reaching a height of over 20,000 feet. It is not known that anyone has ever yet reached this summit. The native guides succumb to the cold even more easily than the white explorers. The ascent presents great difficulties which multiply after the snow line is passed. The precipitation of moisture is so excessive that after a height of 9,000 feet has been gained it is almost unbearable, as the ground is covered by a deep moss bed in which one sinks continuously to ankle and sometimes to the hips. This alternates with slippery rocks or slimy fallen tree trunks so hard that contact with a broken branch often causes a severe wound. Longonot, an extinct volcano, is said to be over 10,000 feet high. Some of the Aberdeen mountains loom 13,000 feet above sea level, while from the great plateau, the Mau, mountains rise to 11,000 feet. Elgon is an immense tract of extinct craters which seems to form a continuation of the Mau. Elgon is said to cover an area of 3,500 miles square. Such figures give a faint idea of the vastness of the piled up masses. To the north stretch away lofty hills further than the eye can reach.

All through the Uganda Protectorate are mountains, the proportions of which would seem great if not so near the awful heights of Ruwenzori. One range forms a water-shed between the

seen the birthplace of the Nile. As one progresses towards what seems the end of the gulf, a faint current is observed and a sharp line of hills borders the shore line. An abrupt turn of the gulf around a barrier of sharp rocks, white with guano, reveals a swift river and a veil of spray curtaining beautiful palm-crowned islands. The densely wooded river banks are about 200 feet high. Nearly a mile distant may be seen large areas of fine grass land, with occasional clumps of trees. Here the river is, perhaps, 400 feet wide and rushes over a decline of about 20 feet, called Ripon falls. An easy path leads down the bank and the upward view is most beautiful and impressive. A tourist is not likely to be alone in viewing the scene, for groups of natives resort here for the purpose of spearing the fish which, in large numbers, are carried over the falls. Birds of prey are also seen on every side trying their fortunes as fishermen. The green forest, purple in the distance, the richly colored date-palms, the orange of their fruit contrasting with the green of their waving foliage, the brilliant blues and greens of the river, touched with white foam and glimmering through the spray, present a charming picture. The country affords almost unlimited pasturage for the large variety of grazing animals which abound. In fact, animals of almost every description thrive here.

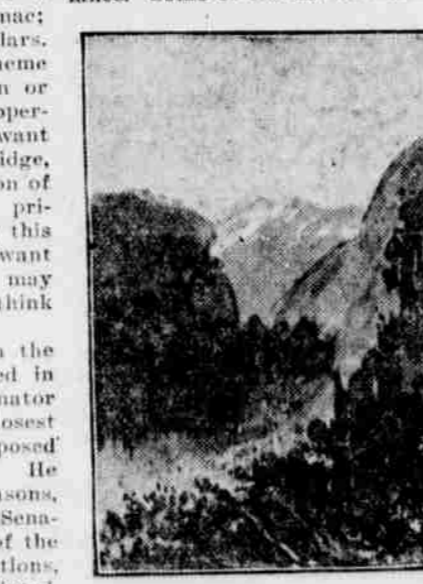
On the shores of the lakes, in the magnificent forests, in fact through the whole Uganda country, are to be found birds of every variety, shape and coloring; storks, pheasants, ostriches, birds of most cumbersome shape and those of daintiest anatomy fill the air with their cries or songs. These have their counterpart in the trees and flowers to be found on every hand. The beauty of the forests is said to be beyond all description, but to oppress one traveling through them until the impression of living in a bygone age becomes almost unbearable. Trees with heavy black trunks, with beautiful white stems, with dark, almost impenetrable foliage, with graceful, lightly-waving leaves, with vines of every grotesque or pleasing shape and variety of color clambering over them, the whole intermixed with flowering trees of almost incredible brilliancy and enveloped in an atmosphere of over-development and rapid vegetable decay, in time induce a sensation of such intense awfulness that one finds



GIANT LOBELIAS, GROUNDSELS AND HEATHS IN UGANDA.

systems of the Nile and the Congo.

The numerous lakes of this region are of vast size, Victoria Nyanza covering about as large an area as the whole country of Scotland, or 29,000 square miles. The navigation of all the large lakes is extremely dangerous at times, owing to the turbulence of the waves. In some directions Lake Victoria extends for 200 miles with nothing to break the water line. As yet no suitable craft have been placed on these waters and travelers have been compelled to risk their lives in canoes, small sailboats or frail launches. As this has rendered long journeys from the shore impossible, it is probable that large islands may yet be found near the center of the lakes. Some of the known islands are



AN UGANDA LANDSCAPE. (Distant View of Ruwenzori's Highest Peak.)

most attractive, offering great variety of landscape and on one, Buwama, are mountains 2,000 feet above the surface of the lake, alluring sites for future hotel or sanitarium buildings. The inland waters are covered with beautiful water lilies, either white or the blue lotus. Lakes Albert Edward, Albert and others to the west possess harsher features and little of the luxuriance of vegetation found at Nyanza. This is probably due to the large amount of salt found in their waters. Little lakes at the northeast of Lake Albert Edward seem to lie in small craters. Some are nearly dry, and from many large quantities of merchantable salt are obtained. At the northern extremity of the beautiful Napoleon gulf, an arm of the great Victoria Nyanza, may be

THE STARVING POOR.

One Hundred Thousand New Yorkers Are Always Hungry.

Free Distribution of Bread Saves Scores from Death by Starvation—The Famous Broadway Bread Line.

[Special New York Letter.]

AT MIDNIGHT every night except Sunday a long line of men numbering a hundred or more, and reaching down Broadway, moves slowly toward a bakery that nestles under the sheltering walls of Grace church. It is a regiment clothed in rags and tatters. The faces of the

men of which it is composed are pinched and wan. The luster has gone from their eyes and poverty has placed its stamp upon them. Stretching along to the south and north, winding like a great river between the sentinels of majestic buildings, Broadway is somber and silent. The sputtering electric lights gleam upon the asphalt pavement. Now and then the hoofs of a cabman's horse clatter by. The shadows are lightened momentarily by the glare of the lamps in an automobile that stealthily steals along toward the life of the up-town cafes. Grim and towering the tall spire of the church reaches toward the sky like a speer.

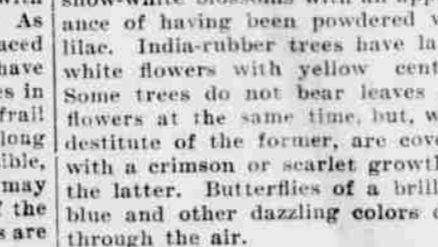
Inch by inch the army of ragamuffins moves into the bakery. As each man enters he pauses for a moment, receives a loaf of bread or a dozen buns from a be-aproned baker within and makes his exit through the rear door to give way to the man behind him. That bakery under the eaves of the church is the only hope he has for the morrow. The loaf of bread he carries out under his arm is the only thing that stands between him and starvation.

Have you ever heard the cry for bread? It is a moan rather than a cry. It is not loud and defiant as one demanding a right. It is low and piteous, and it comes from a soul despairing. It is the cry of women and children that is echoed in the voice of the man who has sought day by day for the pittance that means a beggar's feast. It is a cry that too often does not reach beyond the roofs of the miserable tenement houses where each man's neighbor may be starving like himself.

The bakery is one of several similar places in New York where the unsold bread and rolls of the day are given away at night to the paupers of the city. The bakery on Broadway is the largest of these shops, and, of course, attracts the largest crowd of beg-

gars. It is, however, hardly fair to call all those who apply for their loaf of bread beggars. Many a man has been driven to stand in line and wait for his portion by the hungry looks of his wife and children, who would die before they would ask him to go out and beg for them. And when he has received it he has hastened home and told those waiting for him that he bought it with the pennies he had earned.

I saw this procession of hungry men the other night, and I learned from it a strange lesson of human nature. In the half hour I stood there on the walk I studied the faces and the characteristics of every member of this starvation army as it passed me in review. It was the world in miniature, and almost every phase of life was represented there. I saw honesty and trickery side by side. I saw generosity and selfishness; manliness and cowardice. There were men who would have been weak in broadcloth and men whose bundle of rags could not conceal their manhood. I saw great, stalwart fellows waiting there with shame upon their faces. They looked out of



RECEIVING HIS PORTION.

place beside the beggars and tramps

place beside the beggars and tramps

place beside the beggars and tramps

place beside the beggars and tramps

place beside the beggars and tramps

THE STARVING POOR.

One Hundred Thousand New Yorkers Are Always Hungry.

Free Distribution of Bread Saves Scores from Death by Starvation—The Famous Broadway Bread Line.

[Special New York Letter.]

AT MIDNIGHT every night except Sunday a long line of men numbering a hundred or more, and reaching down Broadway, moves slowly toward a bakery that nestles under the sheltering walls of Grace church. It is a regiment clothed in rags and tatters. The faces of the



THE BREAD SEEKERS.

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are



RECEIVING HIS PORTION.

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

THE STARVING POOR.

One Hundred Thousand New Yorkers Are Always Hungry.

Free Distribution of Bread Saves Scores from Death by Starvation—The Famous Broadway Bread Line.

[Special New York Letter.]

AT MIDNIGHT every night except Sunday a long line of men numbering a hundred or more, and reaching down Broadway, moves slowly toward a bakery that nestles under the sheltering walls of Grace church. It is a regiment clothed in rags and tatters. The faces of the

men of which it is composed are

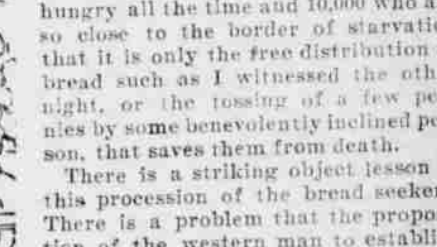
men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are



RECEIVING HIS PORTION.

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are



SAVED FROM STARVATION.

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are

men of which it is composed are