

OVER A BILLION APPROPRIATED.

WORK OF CONGRESS.

Matters of Great Importance Yet to Be Settled Before Adjournment—\$600,000,000 Devoted to War Expenses.

In a few days the Fifty-fifth session of Congress will adjourn, leaving President McKinley and his advisors to decide the Philippine question as they will. All talk of an extra session has now been dispelled as it is believed that an increase in the regular army will be provided for before adjournment.

An eventful period in the country's history is covered by the work of the Fifty-fifth congress, drawing to a close. It has been a period of stirring drama and action with questions of vast magnitude constantly engaging attention, forming an epoch alongside those other American epochs, the revolution and the civil war.

Incidentally, as mentioned that, based on estimates, the total appropriations for the congress—not including the four appropriation bills left over by the former congress—would be approximately \$1,600,000,000, of which amount approximately \$600,000,000 is for war expenses or incident to the army and navy.

This congress has declared war against a foreign foe, and the treaty-making branch has participated in ratifying the treaty by which that war was terminated. It has provided a great volunteer army, has expanded the regular army and has expanded the navy to meet war emergencies and new conditions.

The tariff has been revised, first by the Dingley law and then by the war revenue act; a bond issue known as the war loan has been provided.

But far-reaching as these war measures are, the congress has had time to enact other legislation which, under ordinary circumstances, would make its session memorable. This includes the annexation of Hawaii; the rejection by the senate of the general treaty of arbitration with Great Britain, negotiated by President Cleveland; the enactment of a national bankruptcy law; provision for taking the twelfth census; reorganization of the personnel of the navy. To this list may yet be added other important subjects still pending, including the Nicaragua canal, the increase of the regular army, the anti-scalping measure, the Hawaiian bill and the proposed encouragement of American shipping. Some of the most important general measures in the final legislative stages, and it will not be until the last hours arrive that the success or failure of these measures will be determined definitely.

The house will devote practically all of the closing week of the session to the appropriation bills and conference reports, and the prospects are that every minute of the time will be required to get them through before noon on March 4. All other legislation will go by the wayside, with the notable exception of the senate compromise army reorganization bill.

The present congress began its work in extra session almost simultaneously with the present administration, and the young man is now carrying a bullet in his body.

President Seth Low, of Columbia College, New York, said in a speech at Philadelphia on the occasion of Washington's birthday, "that the war department during the recent strike lacked genius and efficiency."

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TERSE TELEGRAMS.

William J. Diehl was last Tuesday elected mayor of Pittsburgh.

Samuel H. Ashbridge was Tuesday elected mayor of Philadelphia.

Hulbert Taft, of Cincinnati, was elected editor of the Yale literary magazine.

Rumor says that Charles Hoyt, the playwright has broken down, mentally and physically.

The cruiser Yosemite will sail from the Norfolk navy yard in a few days with 220 men for Dewey's fleet.

Robert J. Burdette, the humorist, is soon to wed Mrs. P. C. Baker, a wealthy widow of Pasadena, Cal.

Robert Wilson, aged 17, was cut in two by a crane at the Schoen Steel works, Allentown, Pa., last Monday.

The New York senate has passed a bill making it a misdemeanor to use the national flag for advertising purposes.

Jesse James, Jr., was identified by one of the passengers as the leader of the bandits in the late Leeds train robbery in Missouri.

Gov. Thomas of Colorado urges the legislature to pass laws preventing the consumption of the contemplated smelter combine.

Colonel Conger, formerly of Akron, O., and for years a member of the Republican National committee, died at Des Moines, Ia., aged 61.

J. Pierpont Morgan, the New York Capitalist, will bear the expense of installing electric lights in St. Paul's cathedral, London, at a cost of \$25,000.

State Senator Vernon H. Burke and Judge Dellenbaugh were found guilty at Cleveland of having extorted \$10,000 from "Jane Doe" in the Manning divorce case.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., 23 years of age, is now occupying his first position of trust. A few days ago he was elected a director of the Delaware, Lackawanna Railroad.

Rev. Henry Robert Davis, of Olivet, Mich., who had been settling the estate of his father, was found dead in his bedroom Tuesday, heart disease being the supposed cause.

Thirteen Cherokee Indians have bound themselves by oath, under penalty of death, not to marry outside the Cherokee race. The movement is spreading among the red-skins.

Arbuckle Bros. Tuesday reduced their price for granulated sugar 1-16 of a cent per pound. This is the lowest price that has been made by any importer of the sugar war began.

George F. Baur, president of the Reading, Pa., Iron Company, has ordered a voluntary advance of its 2,200 employees beginning March 1. The amount has not yet been determined.

Mrs. Clara Wachter, of Lewiston, Me., is in jail at Frederick charged by her husband with smothering their son and concealing his remains in a trunk. She was once in an insane asylum.

Because she was afraid to return to the home of her parents from whom she had taken \$15, Mary Kiesel, of Pittsburg, Monday committed suicide by drinking a half pint of carbolic acid.

A young woman of Ligonier, Pa., was exhibiting a jeweled revolver to her friend Harry Carpenter a few days ago. As usual the pistol was discharged and the young man is now carrying a bullet in his body.

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SAMPSON CONGRATULATES SCHLEY

FOR LOCATING THE FOE.

The Hero of Santiago Cannot Understand Why the Commander in Chief Should Now Criticize His Conduct.

Admiral W. S. Schley, who until this time has remained quiet as to the part he took in the battle off Santiago last July, is now compelled to come to his own defence. The charge of disobedience to orders has elicited from him the following statement:

The admiral says his orders from Sampson May 19, to blockade Cienfuegos, which he proceeded to do. At 3:40 o'clock, May 24, for the first time, he learned definitely that the Spanish fleet was not at Cienfuegos. Within two hours he started for Santiago.

"What possible ground of criticism," he says, "adverse to me there can be in all this I do not see. I was on the spot, acting under orders which gave me entire discretion, and yet I have been held responsible for going to Santiago only after I was satisfied that the fleet was not at Cienfuegos."

He quotes from the dispatch of Sampson of May 20, in which the latter says Schley should "hold his fleet off Cienfuegos. . . I am of the opinion that the best chance to capture the Spanish ships will be to hold Cienfuegos and Havana with the force we can muster. . . If you are satisfied that you have positive information you shall continue to hold Havana and Cienfuegos."

As to the slow progress toward Santiago on account of the Eagle, he states that she was a part of the force which Admiral Sampson had seen fit to send him, and he had no right to abandon her.

Speaking of "the retrograde movements," which the secretary adopting the language of Admiral Sampson, characterized as "unintelligible," Admiral Schley says that in 42 years of service "never was such language used to characterize conduct of mine, and I see no reason for it now."

He says that since then, he has been after having been scolded by Sigbee, Jewell and Wise that, although they had been off Santiago for a week, they had seen nothing of the fleet, and knew nothing of its movements or its whereabouts, since it had left Cienfuegos after having been scolded by Sigbee that he did not believe it was in Santiago, and by the emphatic declaration of the pilot, Nunez, and knowing that the sea and weather then were it would be impossible to see the fleet off the port I deemed it best to take the action I did, the final result of which was the location of the enemy's fleet in Santiago harbor."

"The admiral," says Admiral Schley, "left me the senior officer present, and necessarily clothed me with the responsibility of the command." Continuing, he declared that when the enemy's vessels came out of the harbor signal was made by the Brooklyn in this flagship to the fleet to "clear ship for action." Then followed the signal "close action," and this by the signal "the enemy escaping to westward."

He says Admiral Schley contends the turn of the Brooklyn in the battle of the 3d was "the crucial and deciding feature of the combat and a decided advantage." He cites the fact that the charts of the board of navigators showed that the Brooklyn was nearest when it emerged from the harbor, nearest to every stage of the battle, and nearest the Colon when it surrendered, and gives many confirmatory details of his flagship's active and effective participation in the battle. His last paragraph reads:

"On May 31 I received a telegram from the commander-in-chief congratulating me upon my success in locating and blocking the enemy's fleet at Santiago. It was a day of commendation at that time. I am at a loss to understand how it could have grown into reprehensible conduct, as suggested by Admiral Sampson in his letter of July 10, 1898, some six weeks later."

Have No Regard for the Red Cross. In the past few weeks the Red Cross has been like a red flag to the Manila insurgents. Chaplain Pierce, of Gen. MacArthur's staff, testifies that he has been shot at by sharpshooters 50 times in the provisional hospital. Not an ambulance or a litter came which was not the signal for a shower of bullets.

The surgeons of the hospital corps, who were giving aid to the Filipinos as well as to the American wounded, were a target for the sharpshooters. A wounded man who was being carried from the field was killed by insurgents concealed in a tree. The Red Cross people are now armed.

Congratulations for Laubet. Secretary Hay has sent the following cablegram to Ambassador Porter at Paris:

"You will appropriately convey to President Louis the president's most cordial congratulations on his election to the chief magistracy of the French republic and the sincere wishes of the United States for the continual welfare of the French nation."

German and English papers are well pleased with the election of M. Loubet as president of France.

OUR NEW POSSESSIONS.

English banks at Manila observed Washington's birthday last Wednesday.

General Gomez from Havana sent a message of profoundest gratitude to the United States for its help in the late war.

The insurance companies refuse to entertain claims on account of the fires in Manila, claiming the Americans are responsible.

General Lee delivered a speech at a banquet here in a theater at Havana a few nights ago. The ubans were reassured by him that independence would soon be theirs.

Nebraska soldiers at Manila last Wednesday drove 500 Filipinos three miles to Pinar killing many of them. Twenty dead rebels were found on the field. Only three Nebraskans were wounded.

The Stars and Stripes were voluntarily raised over Negros island by the inhabitants in the capture of Iloilo by the Americans under Gen. Miller. Four native commissioners arrived at Manila Tuesday to offer the allegiance of the inhabitants and claim American protection.

BEEF WAS GOOD.

No Fault Found With the Millions of Pounds Issued at Chickamauga.

The army board of inquiry has received the report of Major J. M. Arrasmith, late Commissary at Camp Thomas, Georgia, upon the character of the rations issued at that point. The report covers the millions of pounds of the 77,000 soldiers mobilized at Chickamauga Park from May, 1898, to January, 1899, and is as follows:

"All stores unfit for sale or issue were acted upon by a board of survey and in all cases were condemned prior to issue to troops with the exception that in a few instances damaged potatoes and bacon were returned to the depot commissary and exchanged for fresh supplies. A total of 3,500 pounds of beef were condemned and destroyed consisted of local beef purchased in Chattanooga. The refrigerated beef was sufficient in quantity and the depot commissary inspected and issued about 500,000 pounds of this beef, and in a hot climate, without losing a pound.

"Only 132 pounds of canned beef were received here, and this amount was sold to officers and men of the command and gave entire satisfaction. The greatest care was necessary for the preservation of vegetables in this climate, particularly at about the time that the supply of old potatoes was exhausted and the new potatoes were beginning to arrive. About 100,000 pounds of sugar were damaged by a heavy rainstorm. The quality of the rations furnished was excellent and probably the best ever issued to an army of 60,000 men, with the exception of some potatoes and bread spoiled owing to natural causes. Taking into consideration that approximately 20,000 pounds of subsistence stores were shipped here and issued, the percentage of loss is exceedingly small."

FIREWORKS EXPLODE.

Boys Disobeyed Orders and Two of Them Lost Their Lives.

Two boys were killed, another mortally injured and several others more or less seriously injured by a terrific explosion a few days ago in one of the mixing rooms in a building of the Nordinger-Charlton fireworks company, at Graniteville, S. C.

The dead and mortally injured are: Harry Morgan, aged 15 years, and Charles Frohben, aged 16 years, and Robert Dolan, aged 16 years, badly burned in the eyes and scalp blown off; otherwise badly injured.

The boys were employed in charging cannon crackers and sky rockets. The explosion shook the house and buildings within a radius of half a mile from the factory.

Charles Bidwell, the superintendent of the factory, said that the building had in it quantities of sulphur, saltpeter and potassium chlorate. These were in packages of from 10 to 25 pounds each. He said that the boys disobeyed the strictest of the rules when they went into the mixing room to help themselves during the absence of their chief, and beyond that.

The property loss to the company was trifling, as the building was small and of inexpensive construction.

ARMY REORGANIZATION BILL.

Senate Committee Favors a Regular Army of Sixty-five Thousand Men.

The Senate committee on military affairs has reported a compromise army reorganization bill, which reads as follows:

"That to meet the present exigencies of the military service the present army be authorized to maintain the regular army at a strength of not exceeding sixty-five thousand enlisted men, to be distributed amongst the several branches of the service according to the needs of each, and that not more than thirty-five thousand volunteer infantry, as he may determine, from the country at large under general law, or from the localities where their services may be required in regard to citizenship and educational qualifications, and to form the same into not more than thirty regiments organized as infantry regiments of war strength in the regular army."

Protest Against the Bombardment. General Otis has received news from Iloilo in regard to the fire there. It was not the work of the natives, but was started by the American shells. When the attack commenced the Filipinos and the foreign residents were endeavoring to persuade General Lopez, the commander, to submit, as Iloilo was not fortified and was therefore not in a position to resist the American attack.

The whole commercial quarter of Iloilo, the quatermaster's store, and the foreign residents subsequently met, protested against the bombardment and resolved to put in claims for damages, which are being made by the Spanish government, so that only about 1,800 have been repatriated so far at the expense of the United States. The remaining 2,000 he expects to leave Manila for Spain within the next two weeks.

Beef Was Very Ancient. Adjutant Schaber, of the Eighth Ohio volunteers, who, during the Spanish war, handled large quantities of the canned beef provided for the soldiers, says that all the cans bore labels with the figures 1898 printed on them. By the figures he means the cans these labels could be pulled off, showing an original wrapper with the date 1888, or some other equally ancient period marked on them.

Mercy for Volunteers. The acting secretary of war has set aside the sentences imposed in the cases of Privates William Johnson, Elias Smith, Hartley Esque and Barnard Sweeney, of the First West Virginia volunteer infantry, convicted by court-martial at various points in Georgia of violation of the articles of war, owing to technical irregularities.

AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Judge Day has been appointed judge in the Sixth United States Circuit at Ohio.

The D. A. R. congress passed resolutions calling on Congress to prevent polygamists from holding public office.

The Senate committee on privileges and elections decided that no case had been made against the seating of Senator M. Hanna, of Ohio.

The Senate passed a resolution appropriating \$250,000 for a site for the Bryan Annex at Carnegie will donate to the city of Washington.

BY THE TORCH OF INCENDIARIES.

MANILA AFLAME.

Natives Damage the Fire-Fighting Apparatus and the Property Loss is Enormous—Several Insurgents Killed.

The rebels of the Philippines are now using the torch of the incendiary. Immense damage has already been done by the flames, not to the Americans but to the possessions of their own people.

There was an outbreak of incendiaries, accompanied by fighting, in Manila Thursday evening. The casualties were few, but the property loss is enormous.

The fire department has experienced great difficulty in fighting the flames, owing to defective apparatus. It is reported that the natives have damaged the apparatus.

There was some fighting in the streets during the night, but the Americans quickly quelled the uprising. A number of the insurgents were killed and several American soldiers were wounded.

A large market place was among the first to burn. Between six and seven hundred residences and business houses have been destroyed. Fires were started at several points simultaneously, and spreading with great rapidity, resisted all efforts to control them.

Hundreds of homeless natives are huddled in the streets, making the patrol duty of the Americans very difficult.

The enemy's sharpshooters have been particularly active about Cebu for the past few days. Special attention was paid to the three-gun battery near the railroad and the improvement of the rebel marksmanship was very noticeable. The rebels fired volleys at the battery, and bullets frequently skimming the tops of the sandbags. A lieutenant of the Twentieth Kansas volunteers and three other men were slightly wounded. A man was killed in the trenches gained access to the battery which is a popularly double-turreted monitor Monadnock exploded over it Saturday.

The enemy's fire was so hot during Friday night in the vicinity of the Higgins house that the headquarters was removed to a church 400 yards inside the line.

A few small fires have destroyed the native shacks in various parts of the city.

The Twentieth infantry is being disembarked from the transport Scandia. The regiment will be encamped on the water front at the former quarters of the Tennessee volunteers, temporarily.

Gen. Otis Saturday cabled the war department as follows:

"Scandia arrived last night. On nights 21st and 22d and yesterday morning insurgents troops gained access to outskirts of city behind our lines. Many in hiding and about 1,000 entrenched themselves. Completely routed yesterday, with loss of killed and wounded about 500 and 200 prisoners. Our loss very slight. City quiet. Confidence restored. Business progressing."

Admiral Dewey has cabled the secretary of the navy that the battleship Oregon should be sent to him immediately for political reasons.

"This information came in the following cablegram from General Otis:

"Condition of affairs quiet, progressing favorably. Anxiety need not be felt in regard to the situation. Will send a small body of troops to Cebu, where navy took quiet possession."

Admiral Dewey later cabled the same news. It is the purpose of the admiral to establish the sovereignty of the United States, at Cebu, the capital of the island, which is a population town of 35,000 inhabitants. It is not believed that any serious difficulty will attend this undertaking, as the insurrection has never gained any strength there.

War department reports say the island of Cebu is the most important province of the Visayas group, its area being 2,000 square miles and its population more than a half million. Under the Spanish regime the capital was a city of considerable commercial and political importance.

President McKinley Attends Mass. The president and cabinet, General Miles and many other army officers, members of the supreme court, government officials and the diplomatic corps, attended the solemn funeral mass for President Faure at St. Matthew's Catholic church Thursday morning. Cardinal Gibbons and Archbishop Martinelli participated in the service. There was a catafalque similar to the one in Notre Dame cathedral, Paris, and over it Cardinal Gibbons preached a sermon, expressing American sympathy and good-will for France.

In New York, Philadelphia and Chicago the French church attended regular masses for President Faure. There were catafalques in each church representing the mortal remains of the dead.

CABLE FLASHES.