OBSERVES NATAL DAY OF LINCOLN

Detroit Honors Memory of Martyred President With Many Programs.

GEORGE P. GOODALE TELLS HOW HE MET PRESIDENT

Dramatic Critic Delivers Reminiscent Address to Cass T. H. S. Students.

All Detroit celebrated or observed in some manner or other Lincoln's birthday. Many homes were represented by the younger members of the household at the exercises held in the various schools. The theaters drew their holiday crowds. At the G. A. R. building on Grand River avenue a special program was conducted. The Lincoln birthday celebration this year was really a two-day observance, for many of the pastors of the leading churches paid tribute to the memory of the martyred president on Sunday.

Lincoln's birthday was observed at the Cass Technical High school by means of a remarkable narrative rendered by George P. Goodale, the distinguished dramatic critic. Mr. Goodale is an old-time friend of the principal of the school, Benjamin F. Comfort, and consented to give his experience that happened 50 years ago this week, February 6, when he was a soldier-boy, and personally appealed to President Lincoln for a furlough to take home to their native village in New York state the remains of his dead school chum and comrade in arms, Jerome Hinton.

He held the young students in perfect rapture with the recital of the story "How I Met Abraham Lincoln:"

"It is a very old truism that the greatest are ever the simplest. A striking exemplification of it was my one interview with Abraham Lincoln. It occurred on February 6, 1862. I was a youngster of 18 in one of the New York regiments that lay on Meridian Hill in Washington during that portentous winter of 1861-62, which immediately preceded the disastrous campaign on the Virginia peninsula—the campaign that included the siege of Yorktown, the evacuation of that stronghold on May 4, the pursuit of the confederates to Williamsburg, the fight there on the fifth and the later horrors of Fair Oaks, Malvern Hill and Gaines Mill, to say nothing of the nation's heartbreak over the deplorable end of that series of conflicts and the taking refuge by the union forces at Turkey Bend.

His Comrade Dies.

"Early in February of that year one of my comrades died. We had not then been afield, and, therefore, were not inured to the horrors of war on which the land subsequently was gorged. Death was still regarded by us an event of tremendous moment—much as it was and is regarded in remote and rural communities where his dread coming is infrequent. Our comrade had sickened early in the winter. The surgeons did not seem to know what was the matter with him, and looked on in a helpless way while he faded visibly day by day. Later we knew that sheer melancholy—homesickness, nostalgia, as the medical terminology has it—was the malady that carried off the pride of our company. Most of us who shed any tears over the event felt our grief accentuated and ourselves awe-stricken by the mystery with which we associated death without physical disease.

"Jerome Hinton was his name, and a fine, athletic lad he was, of whom I had hoped great things, and on whose prospective prowess in battle, we had builded many a boyish romance. He and I had been schoolfellows in the tranquil years immediately preceding the outburst of civil war, and our gentle-hearted captain, taking special cognizance of that fact, detailed me to escort the remains home to the little village in western New York, where both of us were reared.

Obtains a Furlough.

"A furlough was obtained for me after much manipulation of red tape, and, together with the remains of young Hinton in a flag-covered casket, I was escorted to the camp lines by a squad of men with arms reversed and all the honors incidental to such occasions. An express wagon subsequently carried my charge to the railway station and I followed on foot in ample time for the train that was to bear me and it northward. I was in uniform and wore side arms; and notwithstanding the depressing nature of my mission, I somehow felt a swelling sense of individual importance to the cause of which that uniform and those superfluous and rather theatrical side arms were signs. By pride angels have fallen; so when the impassive sentinel who stood at the little iron gate in the station refused to let me pass without an examination of my credentials there was a sudden collapse of the self-importance that up to that moment had enabled me to bear my grief with becoming fortitude.

"Perhaps you may ask why. It is easy now to answer; but though 50 years have passed since that hour, I vividly recall the dismay that seized me when, on putting my hand in my pocket for that indispensable furlough, I learned that I had been despoiled of it.

Tells Him Situation.

"The incredulous and unsympathetic Cerberus at the gate threw a cold look of suspicion at me and called the officer of the guard. Good heavens! What was to be done? The officer questioned me and I told him in as direct phrase as I could then muster, the exact situation.

"'Well, my lad,' he said 'you will have to get a duplicate furlough before you can pass here. What is your regiment?'

"I gave him detailed information and he permitted me to leave on my way back to camp, as I then intended, without escort or further detention.

"I had not gone 100 yards on that countermarch when I was seized by an inspiration.

"Why not lay the case before the president of the United States?

"Abraham Lincoln's kindness to the soldiers had already become proverbial; and even supposing he were to refuse me, my offense, or misfortune, could hardly subject me to court-martial. Strung to high tension by the impulse, I broke into double-time and duly found myself at the White House.

"A big-framed attendant in a swallow-tail coat met me at the entrance. I told him, with some effort at composure, that I wanted to see the president.

"The preposterous character of my proposal nearly upset him. He recovered, however, and with a half smile of pitying superiority, waved me aside. But then I was not experienced enough to recognize defeat when it stared me in the face. That big menial should not whistle me down the wind with such airy ease. I protested that my business with the president was of superlative importance, and that I must see him at any cost of effort. Convention, usage, rules, everything in the nature of an obstacle, must stand aside until I could get the president's ear. Emotion and the unthinking audacity of youth must have moved me to some semblance of eloquence, I think, for the big man's lines relaxed with visible denotements of a softening mood.

"'Hold on a minute,' he said, 'an' Oi'll see phwat I can do for yees.'

Returns With Dismal Assurance.

"He disappeared within, and soon returned with the dismal assurance that it would be impossible for me to obtain audience with the president. 'His little boy, Willie, is dyin',' the man explained, 'an' sure he'll see no wan, for his heart's just breakin' entirely, I'm thinkin'.'

"'Go back,' I pleaded, 'and tell the president death is in my case, too, and I believe he'll listen.'

"The good-hearted Irishman was deeply moved, and at some risk of reprimand, as I now think, he went in again to make another effort in my behalf. This time he succeeded. In a minute he returned to me and crooked a finger in token that I was to follow him.

"Many years later I tried to fix the location of the room in which I was led, but to this hour I do not clearly know. However, it has always been my impression that it was the historic East Room. I had little time to examine my surroundings for soon I was made aware of another presence. I looked toward the entrance and saw approaching a man of uncommon hight. I took a swift inventory, in which a face of kindly gravity and a pair of eyes that searched my innermost thought, as it seemed to me, were principal objects. I know that I was face to face with Abraham Lincoln!

"Much had been said of his ungainliness, but what I then saw, and now see with even clearer vision and larger comprehension, was incarnate benignity.

Makes Military Salute.

"I made the military salute. He bent his head and in a reassuring tone asked me what was the matter. I gave him a hurried account of how I came to be in my present plight ending with the confession that I had lost or been robbed of my furlough on the way from camp to the train.

"'Oh, I guess we can fix it,' he said. He sat down as he spoke and wrote something on a card, which he put into my hand.

"'Take that to Gen. McClellan over there (indicating the direction of headquarters), and I think perhaps you may catch the next train north. Good-bye, young soldier, good-bye.'

Gets Immediate Hearing.

"With a full heart I quitted the benign presence and hastened to the offices of the commanding general, where the card given me by the president procured for me an immediate hearing. A staff officer with red hair and an air that was 'all business' was first to receive me at the hands of an orderly. I have reason to think he was Asst. Adjt.-Gen. Williams. At any rate, he had direct access to Gen. McClellan, to whom he conducted me in person. Little Mac read my White House credentials, took one of his personal cards from his pocket case and wrote on the back of it these words:

"'PASS THIS SOLDIER TO
"'ROCHESTER, N. Y.,
"'FOR SIX DAYS.
"'G. B. McCLELLAN.
"'Washington, Feb. 6, 1862.'

"That was equipment enough. When I proudly showed it to that sentinel at the iron gate in the railway station, he said, laconically, 'Pass.' And I passed.

"To show how even red tape may sometimes have its legitimate use I can certify a strange sequel to the loss of that furlough. As all of you may know, every furlough of an enlisted man is composed in part of his 'descriptive list'—name, age, hight, place of birth, color of hair, occupation, residence, etc., etc. In the summer of 1865, after the war was done, and I had returned to the home of my youth for a passing call, I was shown the lost document, which was in the custody of a member of my family. It had been picked up on Pennsylvania avenue in Washington, where it had probably worked out of my pocket, on that, to me, memorable February day in '62, and through the labyrinthian ways of officialdom ultimately reached the provost marshal of the district of my nativity."

Give Readings and Anecdotes.

At the various schools in the city the birthday of the great emancipator was remembered in many ways. In all of the schools patriotic songs were sung and recitations, readings and anecdotes were given.

At the Estabrook, Bishop and Goldberg schools especially were the programs commemorating the life of Lincoln entertaining. At the Estabrook school, Lloyd Welch repeated the address of Lincoln at Gettysburg in pleasing fashion, and in addition a quartet of student voices rendered patriotic songs. Several tableaux representing scenes in the life of Lincoln were executed by students at the Bishop school. At the Goldberg school an interesting and varied program was disposed of. A short account of Lincoln's life, extracts from speeches he made, tributes paid to him by the various orators of his time and the commemoration ode were delivered in fitting observation of the great president's anniversary.

Says South Holds Lincoln In As High Esteem As North

Dwelling on the intrinsic greatness of the man himself and his great purity of mind, Dr. W. J. Patton of Cleveland, O., spoke before a large crowd of Sons of Veterans, Grand Army men, members of the Women's Relief Corps and others at the G. A. R. hall on Grand River avenue last evening. The meeting was the center of the local observance of Lincoln's birthday. On the whole the birthday anniversary of the great emancipator was quiet.

The meeting at the G. A. R. hall was held under the auspices of the State Camp, No. 1, Michigan Sons of Veterans. Preceding the address of Dr. Patton, musical selections by the Grand River Avenue M. E. church orchestra and addresses by local members of the Sons of Veterans, Grand Army men and others were given. Various G. A. R. posts in the city were represented by speakers, who told briefly the respect and esteem in which Abraham Lincoln was held.

The Confederate army was represented by Rev. J. M. Barkley of the First Presbyterian church. He believed it was his mission, although the south was the advocate of slavery, to assert that the south held the memory of Lincoln in as great esteem as did the north, even though it was due to him that negro serfdom was put to an end.

Following the speech of Dr. Barkley, Mrs. M. D. Widrig of the Women's Relief Corps recited "The Blue and the Gray." She was followed by Rev. G. W. Morrow, superintendent of the Anti-Saloon league of Michigan, who sang "Marching Through Georgia." The audience joined in the chorus.

Miss Marie E. James spoke for the Daughters of the G. A. R. and ably expressed the sentiments of the woman patriots toward Lincoln.

Dr. Patton's talk was illustrated by stereoticon views showing incidents in the life of Lincoln, including the log cabin in which he was born, the theater in which he was shot, the monument erected over his grave and other views.

Dr. Patton was secured to take the place of Prof. A. H. Griffith of Detroit, who was unable to deliver the principal address due to a slight illness. Dr. Patton spoke reverently of the martyred president, praising the high quality of the man and his superb administration of the affairs of state during the great civil war.

Points Great Moral Lesson Which Life of Lincoln Contained

Dividing the career of Lincoln into four parts, his boyhood, early political struggles, his career as a statesman, and his work as a president, Attorney Samuel W. Burroughs held a large audience interested for nearly two hours Sunday evening at the Wyandotte Congregational church.

"The most remarkable fact is Lincoln's life from the political viewpoint of today is that he was absolutely non-partisan in his attitude toward the things which he considered to be remedies for the chaos into which the civil war had plunged the nation."

Mr. Burroughs laid particular stress on the great obstacles which Lincoln had to overcome in his youth and by his story of the man's life, based on his experience as a soldier and his study of his biography, pointed out the great moral lesson which it contained.

ONE OF THE POPULAR GIRLS IN NATIONAL CAPITAL SOCIETY

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MISS RUTH TRIBBLE.

Miss Tribble is the daughter of Congressman Samuel J. Tribble, of Georgia. Miss Tribble is one of the most popular girls in the southern set in Washington.

STRANGE EPIDEMIC SEIZES STUDENTS

Pupils of Fashionable Concord (N. H.) Institution Victims of Mysterious Throat Disease.

Concord, N. H., February 12.—An epidemic of a peculiar type, of the nature of tonsilitis, has been the occasion of much alarm here. To date there have been between 100 and 200 cases and two deaths. Twenty of the cases are among the students at the fashionable St. Paul's Episcopal school. The epidemic is not unlike that which prevailed in the Brookline, Black Bay and Brighton districts of Boston 10 months ago.

Dr. Irving A. Watson, secretary of the state board of health, has begun an investigation and is holding conferences with the medical authorities in Boston and elsewhere. The disease is more like tonsilitis than anything else, although it is worse than that, because it is generally accompanied by a suppurated condition of the glands of the throat. The disease is contagious and much like measles, and patients are apt to suffer from unpleasant sequels.

Medical authorities have been trying to determine how the malady is communicated, but thus far without success. Dr. Watson says he has been unable to fasten it upon either milk or water. He holds to the opinion that the disease is air born or is carried from one person to another by contact.

GIRL DIVES INTO SEA, SAVES CHUM

Plunges From Deck of Steamship, Storm Tossed, on Way to Honolulu.

Honolulu, H. I., February 12.—The Japanese steamship Nippon ran into a heavy sea off the islands and the coal in her bunkers shifted to such an extent that the big vessel was listing heavily when she put in here. She had wallowed for hours in the trough of the sea. There was no panic, although the passengers had to keep to their cabins because of the rolling of the vessel. The Nippon Maru is one of the big vessels of the Oriental Steamship company.

Miss Ruth Ragan, an organizer of the Yokohama Y. W. C. A., who was on her way to her home in Denver, was the heroine of the occasion. She saved her companion, Miss M. Page, of Berkeley, Cal., from drowning when the big vessel began to roll. The young women were standing together on the upper deck when the vessel struck the heavy weather. Miss Page was thrown into the water and Miss Ragan plunged in after her. Miss Ragan is an expert swimmer and succeeded in holding up the Berkeley girl until assistance reached them from the vessel.

TERRIBLE DEMON URGED BURGLARY

Youth Found in New York Delicatessen Store Thus Accounts for Incident.

New York, February 12—Declaring, according to the police, that he had been prompted to enter the delicatessen store at 542 West One Hundred and Twenty-seventh street by "a terrible invisible demon and had been lured on by an irresistible force," a young man who described himself as Charles L. Johnson, a window dresser, of 213 West One Hundred and Twenty-seventh street, was arraigned in the Harlem court on a charge of burglary.

Lieut. John McDermott of the West One Hundred and Twenty-seventh street station was at Broadway and Manhattan street shortly after midnight, when he was informed by Howard Hopkins of 11 Manhattan street that the delicatessen store of John Foerst at 542 West One Hundred and Twenty-seventh street had been entered. He hurried to the store, accompanied by Patrolman John Livingston. The plate glass panel of the door had been broken and a thin blue curtain had been tacked on the inner side of the door. Lieut. McDermott peered into the shop. In a corner he saw a young man bending over a cash register.

"What are you doing?" demanded the lieutenant.

"Oh, just looking around," replied the young man, straightening up.

Lieut. McDermott drew his revolver and, thrusting it through the jagged hole in the door, ordered the intruder to come out.

At the station house the prisoner described himself as Johnson, the police say, and when he was searched $14 was found in his possession. The cash register had not been opened.

A charge of burglary was preferred against him neverth less.

"Why did you commit a burglary with all this money in your possession?" asked Lieut. Miller, looking at the fashionable clothes, fancy waistcoat and patent leather shoes worn by the prisoner.

"Some terrible demon possessed me," replied Johnson. "I was lured on by an irresistible force," he went on, "and I had to submit."

"Perhaps it was a little red devil," suggested Lieut. McDermott, smilingly.

HISTORIC WEDDING CHEST IS SOLD

One of Treasures of a Russian Prince Bought by a Chicago Woman.

New York, February 12.Many are the associations connected with the remarkable sixteenth century wedding chest which was sold by a firm in this city and sent on its way to Chicago.

This chest is a Renaissance work in carved wood covered with thin gold hammered into the carving and with the body adorned with Genoese velvet. It came from the famous collection of Prince Anatole Demidoff, a Russian nobleman living in Florence. He married a daughter of Jerome Bonaparte, Mathilde de Montfort. The palace of San Donato in Florence was filled with precious works of art, including carvings, sculptures and bronzes, besides old masters of the highest importance. The sale of this remarkable art collection in 1880 was a sensation. Some of the treasures found their way to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in this city and other to private collections in New York.

The wedding chest was acquired by Messrs. P. W. French & Co., of this city, and was sold to a woman prominent in the social circles of Chicago. Since the disposal of the art treasures of the palace the majority of them have been added to collections of museums or in private galleries. The dissolution of the marriage of the prince and princess in 1846 and the deaths of many of the members of the powerful Russian family preceded the selling of the treasures of the palace.

Manager of Theater 55 Years; Retires Owing to Old Age

Paw Paw, Mich., February 12.—Manager of the Paw Paw opera house since 1857, George W. Longwell, because of his advanced age, has been forced to give up his position and retire. Mr. Longwell claims to have managed an opera house longer than any other man in the country. Not once during 55 years he has been in charge of the playhouse has he ever been away during the amusement season.

His College.

Marks—That new member seems pretty green for a man who claims to be a college graduate.

Parks—Probably it was an agricultural college.—Boston Transcript.

HILL TELLS HOW HE GOT ORE LAND

Railroad Builder Appears Before Steel Committee With Story of His Deals on Mesabi.

$500,000,000 PROPERTY BOUGHT FOR $4,500,000

He Has Been Working 33 Years for Benefit of His Shareholders, He Says.

Washington, February 12.—The tariff board's money is running so low that it may not this year be able to investigate the iron and steel schedule, which is already under revision by congress. The leather investigation now under way, probably will use up all the board's present appropriation. A supplemental report on the wool schedule, dealing principally with blankets and carpets will be made in a few months.

Special to The Free Press.

Washington, February 12.—James J. Hill today entertained the Stanley steel committee with a story of his great generosity in acquiring the Lake Superior ore lands for the benefit of the shareholders of the Great Northern railroad.

In a matter of fact way he recounted how for a mere $4,500,000 he had come into control of property in the Mesabi region which he now values at $500,000,000.

How He Got 'Em.

These ore lands, covering an area of 39,000 acres, were, Mr. Hill testified, formerly the property of Wright & Davis, a firm that operated a railroad and owned other property in the Mesabi region. Mr. Hill learned that this firm wanted to sell, and just as they were about to close out to the Consolidated company, a Rockefeller concern, the head of the Great Northern stepped in and clinched the bargain at $4,500,000.

Mr. Hill immediately turned over his interest in the acquired property to the Lake Superior Consolidated company, a corporation in which his three sons, L. W., E. M. and J. M. Hill, and E. T. C. Nichols were the controlling spirits.

Mr. Hill testified that he bought these ore lands for the benefit of the shareholders of the Great Northern. Asked if the Great Northern had not supplied the funds that enabled him to make the purchase, Mr. Hill replied emphatically in the negative.

Helps Shareholders.

"I have been working for my shareholders for 33 years," he said. "Whenever I have seen an opportunity to make money for myself it was an opportunity that I turned to their advantage."

Other lands turned over to the Steel corporation were those in which the Hills owned an interest. Other owners got the same prices as Mr. Hill. One firm was Longyear & Bennett.

"At the time of this lease was there any open mine on the Longyear & Bennett property?" Mr. Stanley asked.

"Not that I know of."

"The Steel corporation agreed, did it, that it would pay a certain amount per ton on ore?"

"They agreed to develop the mines and pay for what they took out," said Mr. Hill.

Mr. Hill was summoned by the committee to tell about the relations of the Hill and steel roads in the Mesabi country, and also to narrate the circumstances under which the United States Steel corporation, represented by J. P. Morgan, acquired the Hill ore properties under lease.

There Early.

Mr. Hill's summons was returnable at 10:30 this morning. He put in an appearance at 10:15. Mr. Hill was accompanied by John F. Carroll of St. Louis, general counsel for the Burlington. Prior to the public hearing the committee had decided to put other witnesses on the stand. Mr. Hill was asked to return at 11:30. He did so. The committee still was engaged with other witnesses, and at the suggestion of Mr. Carroll the railroad magnate was told that he would be heard immediately after the recess for luncheon.

Mr. Hill had barely begun to tell his story of his operations in the Lake Superior region when an adjournment was taken until tomorrow. He will go on the stand then and probably occupy the attention of the committee the entire day.

In an informal talk with members of the committee, newspaper correspondents and others after today's hearing Mr. Hill had several interesting things to say in regard to the ore lands controlled by the Hill interests. He gave everyone to understand that he is not worried over the notice given by the steel corporation that it would terminate its leases of the Hill ore properties in 1915.

"Ore is not going down," said Mr. Hill with a wink. "We have 500,000,000 tons in our land. I would not take a dollar a ton for it today."

Mr. Hill did not think his ore would go begging. He did not indicate where it would be sold, but insisted there always would be a strong demand at good prices for Lake Superior ores.

J. M. C. Smith's Bill Repealing Trade Pact May Not Reach House

Special to The Free Press.

Washington, February 12.—It is a question whether the bill of Representative J. M. C. Smith, of Michigan, calling for the repeal of the bill providing for reciprocity with Canada, will get to the floor of the house before the case of free importation of paper from Canada comes up in the United States court of customs appeals.

But should Mr. Smith's bill pass the house and senate and be approved by the president before the commencement of the April term of the customs court, it is said the latter body will be freed from necessity of considering the question of free importation of paper from Canada in the matter of its possible violation of the "favored nation" clause in treaties made with certain European countries.

When the reciprocity bill was enacted by the United States there was attached the proviso that paper pulp, pulp wood and pulp paper made of timber from unrestricted timber lands of Canada should be admitted into the United States duty free, regardless of any action Canada might take for or against ratification of reciprocity itself. At once a number of European nations protested that the remission of duty on Canadian pulp and pulp paper was in violation of the "favored nation" clauses in treaties made by the United States with those nations. The case was submitted to the board of appraisal review and it is understood that board soon is to report. The case then will go at once to the United States court of customs appeals, over which Judge Robert M. Montgomery, of Michigan, presides as chief justice. It is expected the case will be on the docket of the April term.

Congressman J. M. C. Smith proposed to repeal the bill as passed, including the free paper provision, which now is effective. As to the matter of reciprocity, he holds that since Canada has rejected it, it should be stricken from the United States statutes as so much useless verbiage, and he also would repeal the clause admitting paper from Canada free on the contention that such remission of duty has resulted in no reduction in price of paper in this country.

Mr. Smith comes from the third Michigan district, in which are a number of paper manufacturies, notably at Kalamazoo, and his bill is understood to please them as well as certain agricultural elements in his district that are frightened over a report that Canada is about to reconsider her recent rejection of reciprocity and move to reconsider, with the acceptance of reciprocity with the United States as final object.

A bill similar to Congressman Smith's has been presented to the senate by Senator Heyburn. It is said, however, there is small likelihood of Mr. Smith's bill ever reaching the floor of the house. It is understood the Democrats are opposed to taking any step looking toward the repeal of legislation to which they stand committed.

Cromwell Accused in Panama Canal Matter By N. Y. World Man

Washington, February 12.—The relation of William Nelson Cromwell to the proceedings through which the United States paid $40,000,000 for the French rights to the Panama canal route were discussed before the house committee on foreign affairs today by Henry N. Hall of the New York World, who has been making a study of incidents connected with the choice of the Panama route over the Nicaraguan route.

Mr. Hall charges that Mr. Cromwell had influenced congress in 1889 to reject the Nicaraguan route after it practically had been selected. Acting for the new Panama canal company, which had acquired the rights of the French builders, Mr. Cromwell undertook, said Mr. Hall, to influence the new Walker commission, then appointed, and commit it to a purchase of the Panama property.

"Mr. Cromwell persuaded Senator Hanna," said Mr. Hall, "to permit him to amend the Republican national platform in 1900 in the interests of the Panama route. The words 'an isthmian canal' were substituted for the words 'the Nicaragua canal,' but only after Mr. Cromwell had contributed $60,000 to the Republican national committee, of which Senator Hanna was chairman.

"This $60,000 Mr. Cromwell later charged to the new Panama canal company as a necessary expense."

Progressives of Two Parties Join to Push Money Trust Inquiry

Washington, February 12.—The proposed congressional investigation of the "money trust" got an unlooked-for impetus today in the senate and had some developments in the house.

Senator Kenyon, progressive Republican, and Senator Lea, progressive Democrat, joined in framing a proposal for an investigation by a committee of six members to be drawn from both houses. This is expected to be introduced in the senate in the form of a joint resolution which will require the concurrence of the house.

CONGRESS NOTES.

The house Monday passed an anti-loan shark bill establishing 12 per cent as the legal rate of interest that may be charged by loan agencies in the District of Columbia.

The majority report of the senate committee on elections which investigated the charges of corruption in the election of Senator Stephenson of Wisconsin and exonerated him was presented to the senate Monday. A truce of a day or so in the fight over the case in the senate chamber was expected as the result of the delay in the filing of the minority report.

Abraham Lincoln's birthday was marked in the senate by a favorable report on a bill to appropriate $50,000 for the aid of a negro exposition next January in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the emancipation proclamation. Senator Root reported the bill with a report recommending its passage.

Miss Amanda Honert of New Buffalo, Mich., is in a position to be reimbursed by congress for the personal effects she lost some time ago in a fire that destroyed the post house of the Arapahoe and Cheyenne Indian school, in Oklahoma. The department of the interior has just reported favorably on a bill to this effect presented by Congressman Hamilton of Michigan.

The Sherwood "dollar a day" pension bill was rejected Monday by the senate committee on pensions and another measure which would involve an annual expenditure of $22,000,000 proposed as a substitute by Senator Smoot, of Utah, was adopted. Senators Brown (Neb.) and Curtis (Kas.) gave notice that in the senate they would press the Sherwood bill as a substitute for the Smoot bill.

BETRAYED PALS; HE FEARS DEATH

Desperate Criminals in Leavenworth "Pen" Organized to Murder "Squealers."

Denver, February 12.—That a crew of convicts exists at the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kas., the leading members of which are prisoners sentenced for life or 25 years and upwards who not only threaten death to those who are taken from the penitentiary and testify against their partners in crime, but who force them to submit to all kinds of indignities and injure them whenever opportunity presents, is the statement made by Richard J. Lewis, an escaped convict captured in Denver.

"I don't mind going back to serve out my time in solitary confinement for running away, but I dread being pushed off a scaffold to my death or having someone crush me by dropping a brick on my head," said Lewis while in the custody of Deputy United States Marshal Matthew Paul and C. E. Lindhorn, detective, who arrested him today. "I was warned when I started to St. Louis in custody of a guard that if I testified against my pals in the counterfeiting trials I had better escape and not come back or the wrecking crew of old-timers who don't care whether they live or die would do plenty to me for what they call treason.

"I know they mean what they say for I have seen some of them drop a brick on the shoulders of a guard and break his shoulder. They tried to kill him that way. They have some of the most hardened criminals in the world there and they don't care whether they get solitary confinement for life or whether they are assigned to work in gardens among the flowers.

"I like the theaters and the Bible classes on Sunday, but I presume that I will be deprived of all of these things and forced to read the Scripture in a dungeon. I was drunk when I ran away or I would not be in the position I am now."

Lewis would have been paroled had he not escaped. He came from a prominent St. Joseph, Mo., family, and was sentenced to two years from St. Louis for making counterfeit dollars. In November the third member of his gang was to be tried and Lewis was ordered taken back to St. Louis to testify against the man who made the money. Edward Willis, a cripple, and a partner in crime with the escaped convict, accompanied him.

On the way back from St. Louis the guard left the two men in the chair car. Passengers fed them whisky and they both became intoxicated. Both Willis and Lewis had been trusties at the penitentiary and frequently had roamed about Leavenworth without a guard. At Kansas City when they found that the guard had gone up town and left them, Lewis walked away. He sold his overcoat for $3 and came to Denver on a freight train. Willis, being crippled, could not escape.

HE VIEWS WITH ALARM

Home Rule Will Kill Protestantism, Carson Thinks.

London, February 12.—Sir Edward Carson, unionist member of parliament for Dublin university, who has been the strongest opponent of home rule for Ireland, made a plea for the Ulsterites at a conference of non-conformists this afternoon, which adopted a resolution to give the Irish Protestants its unwavering support, in the "profound conviction that home rule would imperil religious liberty."

Sir Edward declared that the issue lay largely in the hands of the non-conformists of England. He quoted William O'Brien, the nationalist member for Cork, to the effect that handing over the Protestants to the "Molly Maguires" meant the extinction of Protestantism in Ireland. He characterized as ridiculous the government's proposal to secure religious freedom by guarantees in the home rule bill.

FACE WANT FOR LOVE AT 70 YRS.

Veteran and Bride, Expelled From Home Because of Ban on Marriage.

Kansas City, February 12.—Expelled from the Confederate home at Higginsville because they became engaged and were married six weeks ago, Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Starns, both past 70 years old, came to try their future in Kansas City. The aged couple had just 15 cents when they arrived at the courthouse to apply for admission to the county home. Two small telescope suitcases contained all their worldly goods.

Mr. Starns told fondly about the romance of a few weeks and the courtship "on the sly" in the Confederate Home.

Service Led to Love.

"You know, I was in Senator Cockrell's brigade and saw hard service in Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia during the four years of the civil war," Mr. Starns said. "I went to the Confederate Home eight years ago from Jackson county. There I met W. B. Ellis, my wife's first husband. He died two years ago and his widow continued a resident of the home. She became ill five months ago and I was assigned to wait on her.

"Well, we just got to talking to each other and decided that if younger folks could get married there wasn't any crime for older ones to do the same. I wanted a wife and she wanted a husband and we made up our minds that if we had to be thrown out into the cold world or anywhere else we would get married. I found that my heart was just as susceptible to love as when I was a youth and a whole regiment of Yankees couldn't have stopped us, either.

Others Not So Desperate.

"There were two other couples in the Confederate Home who wanted to get married. But there was a ban on marriage in the home. Five days ago, a little more than a month after we were married, we were told we would have to move out. My wife had asthma and I wasn't able to work, so we were hard pressed for a place to stay and something to eat. Now we have found a home where it isn't any crime to be married."

The bride and groom will be assigned to a room at the county home. They were given tickets to Little Blue and the county "bus" will meet them there.

Mrs. Starns has lived in Jackson county more than 40 years. Mr. Starns has been a resident of Missouri 70 years.

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