

as low a price as is consistent at once with excellence of service and a fair return to those who render the service; that the benefit should go to those who ride, and not to the city hall. If the companies can afford to carry a passenger from any point in the city to any other point on any of the lines for three cents it is not ridiculous but reasonable to demand that the service be rendered at that price. It is not ridiculous but reasonable to say that instead of permitting the companies to charge five cents a ride and requiring them to pay over two cents out of the five to the city hall they should be required to carry for three cents a ride.

IN CONGRESS.

This report is an abstract of the Congressional Record, the official report of Congressional proceedings. It includes all matters of general interest, and closes with the last issue of the Record at hand upon going to press. Page references are to the pages of Vol. 36 of that publication.

Washington, Feb. 9-14, 1903.

Senate.

Senator Carmack spoke in the morning hour of the 9th (p. 2016) in support of the Rawlins resolution calling for records of Philippine court-martials; and in the afternoon consideration of the Statehood bill (p. 2021) was resumed. The Rawlins resolution was referred on the 10th (p. 2070) to the Committee on the Philippines by a vote of 36 to 23. After reception of the conference report on the department of commerce and labor bill (p. 2061) discussion of the Statehood bill (p. 2082) was continued, until near adjournment when the conference report on the army efficiency bill (p. 2092) was adopted. The passage of the Alaska public lands bill opened the proceedings of the 11th (p. 2170). It was followed immediately by a continuation of the discussion of the Statehood bill (p. 2170). Senator Quay asked unanimous consent later in the day (p. 2177) that final vote on this bill be taken on the 21st, but Senator Proctor objected, and the discussion proceeded (p. 2178). It was interrupted by the adoption of the conference report (p. 2178) on the department of commerce and labor. No business of general interest was done on the 12th, nor on the 13th other than a discussion of the Statehood bill (p. 2253). The House amendments to the so-called Elkins anti-trust bill were adopted on the 14th (p. 2328) and the Philippine revenues amendment bill was discussed (p. 2337).

House.

No business of permanent general interest was done on the 9th, but on the 10th the conference report on the department of commerce and labor bill was discussed (p. 2094) and agreed to (p. 2100). Appropriations work occupied the day on the 11th and 12th. The Elkins anti-trust bill as it had passed the Senate was taken up on the 13th (p. 2266) and passed (p. 2264). The remainder of this day was devoted to appropriations work and the 14th to private bills.

**Record Notes.**—Speeches of Representatives Henry (p. 1999), Rixey (p. 2061), Thayer (p. 2064), Morrell (p. 2116), Griffith (p. 2116), Jenkins (p. 2118), Palmer (p. 2127), Zenor (p. 2130), Thompson (p. 2139), Clayton (p. 2181), Gooch (p. 2189), Brownton (p. 2190), De Armond (p. 2196), Douglas (p. 2333), Lloyd (p. 2338), Terrell (p. 2321), on trusts. Speech of Representative Feely (p. 2004), on good roads. Text of conference reports on department of commerce and labor (pp. 2060-51). Speech of Senator Dietrich on the Philippine Islands (p. 2281).

Rural Visitor—By gum! It's wonderful how New York's growin'! When I was here years ago there was four an' five-story buildin's where now there's eighteen an' twenty—

His Son—But—but yer don't mean to say they've growed?—Puok.

MISCELLANY

LINCOLN.

A portion of an Ode for the Twelfth of February.

And how shall we, my friends, best honor him? What ends,  
What aims, what aspirations make our own?  
What cause would he approve with his great human love,  
Now his revered republic is full grown?

With beauty we must store the good world more and more,  
This very day be artists, every one,  
Till we have longed and wrought with truth in every thought,  
And without gladness not a hand's turn done.

And what does this imply? What part have you and I  
With Lincoln and the cause of liberty?  
Are there no slaves to-day? While we sit here at play,  
Have we no brothers in adversity?

None sorry nor oppressed, who without hope or rest  
Must toil and have no pleasure in their toil?  
These are your slaves and mine. Where is the right divine  
Of idlers to encumber God's good soil?

There is no man alive, however he may strive,  
Allowed to own the work of his own hands.  
Landlords and waterlords at all the roads and fords,  
Taking their toll, imposing their commands.

Not until every man is free to choose and plan  
What service he will do for beauty's sake—  
How vent that one supreme desire, the artist's dream,  
Bidding new wonders at his touch awake—

Not until he is made the lord of his own trade,  
Can any man be glad or strong or free.  
There looms the coming war. Which captain are you for,  
The chartered wrong, or Christ and liberty?  
—Bliss Carman, in The Literary World.

A REFORMER IN OFFICE.

The readers of The Commoner had occasion to rejoice when a Kansas City platform democrat, Hon. Lucius F. G. Garvin, was elected governor of Rhode Island, for they knew that he was interested in doing something more than drawing his salary and enjoying the honors of the position. They will be glad, though not surprised, to know that Governor Garvin is justifying their hopes and expectations. He begins his message to the legislature by using language which the Republicans may regard as sacrilegious. He points to the great productive capacity of the United States during the year 1902, but

instead of attributing this prosperity to the Republican administration he attributes it to our "vast natural resources and to the industry and enterprise of our people." He calls attention to the abuses of governmental functions of the state—first, the passage of laws by one general assembly which cannot be amended or repealed by subsequent assemblies; second, the establishment of a board of police commissioners which spent money raised by taxation, although not responsible to the people who pay the taxes; third, the post-election sessions of the general assembly which passed laws that they would not dare to pass before an election; fourth, the domination of a third house, causing legislation to be sold to the highest bidder. He also points out that the theory of representative government is constantly violated in Rhode Island, and that under the constitution of Rhode Island one-twelfth of the inhabitants living in small towns possess as much influence as eleven-twelfths of the people living in large cities. He calls for a constitutional convention, and points out other needed reforms.

The eastern Democrats are looking around for a presidential candidate. Why is it that they ignore such timber as that furnished by Rhode Island? Why is it that they pick up men who have never expressed themselves on public questions and have never given any evidence of sympathy with the people? Why? Because the reorganizing element of the party does not want a president who would be Democratic in office and who would use the great prestige of the presidency to protect the people from the encroachment of organized wealth.

Governor Garvin lives in an eastern State, but he would be as obnoxious to the reorganizers as any western or southern believer in the Kansas City platform. If he were to announce his candidacy for the presidency he would be assailed as a small, insignificant, narrow-minded man, "an accident in politics," and as a person lacking the breadth and depth which the metropolitan papers are in the habit of conferring upon those who are under secret obligation and pledge to the corporations.

The Democrats, however, who are interested in good government—and such Democrats are quite numerous on election day—will rejoice that little Rhode Island is going to have a taste of Democracy. Governor Garvin will have their best wishes if he tries to secure remedial legislation for his constituents.—The Commoner of Feb. 13.