

greed, made it plain that there was a wide difference in their opinions of the meaning of the decision in question. Senators Voorhees and Gorman agreed in believing that it meant untold disaster for the railroad employees, whom they think it places in the defenseless position of enlisted soldiers. Senator Peffer, who claims not only to represent the wage-earner, but to be one himself, takes the opposite view of the decision, which he regards as the first step in a new era in the relations between labor and corporations, and one that is altogether favorable to the labor side. These are the extremes. Other senators think the United States Supreme Court, and not a Senate committee, the proper tribunal to pass upon the decision of Judge Ricks.

The plain talk of a number of senators upon several subjects this week indicates that some of the senators were in a bad humor, probably because they are tired of the extra session. The first explosion came when two or three resolutions authorizing committee investigations during the summer that would necessarily involve some more or less pleasant trips for senators were offered. These trips were characterized by several senators as entirely useless and only gotten up to enable those who go to have a good time at public expense. But the bitterest language was indulged in when the resolution proposing an investigation of Senator Roach was discussed in executive session. A sensation was created by a speech made by Senator Voorhees in which he bitterly attacked Senator Hoar for insisting upon the investigation, and practically admitted that Senator Roach was guilty, but thought, he should be let alone because he had atoned for his crime by living a correct life ever since he went to Dakota. The Democratic caucus finally decided that no investigation should be held at this session.

A friend of President Cleveland's speaking about this Roach affair said: "Mr. Cleveland does not feel that it is his duty or even his right to publicly express an opinion upon what concerns the Senate alone, but I know that he thinks a great mistake was made in ever opposing the proposition to investigate the public charge of embezzlement against Senator Roach, and that he regrets the action of the caucus."

Ex-Premier Mercier of Quebec, and several other prominent Canadians are in town, they say merely on a pleasure tour. Speaking of annexation Mr. Mercier said: "There is a strong sentiment in Quebec for annexation, under the proper circumstances and conditions. That is, we wish to become an independent nation, so that we can negotiate for annexation upon terms that will be advantageous for Canada, and not for Great Britain, as would be the case if the negotiations were carried on from London, as they would necessarily have to be under present conditions." Being asked if there was any probability that Canada would be peaceably allowed to become an independent nation, Mr. Mercier replied: "Independence may, in my opinion, be had by Canada for the asking. During my recent visit to England I talked with many prominent Englishmen on the subject, and found the liberals all favorably inclined and also many of

the conservatives. Mr. Gladstone is on record as favoring the independence of Canada, and I believe we shall get it in the near future; also that we shall eventually come into the United States."

It was expected that the Senate would have adjourned this week, but when a committee waited upon President Cleveland to learn his pleasure, he told them that he would not be able to send in all the nominations he wished acted upon before the last of this or the first of next week.

NEWS OF THE WEST.

Among Humboldt county, Cal., exhibits at the World's Fair will be a redwood plank six feet by sixteen without a flaw or blemish.

The telephone line that is to connect Hanford and Fresno is nearing completion. Several boxes are to be put in farmhouses between Wildflower and Chicago.

George A. Crofutt is at Rawlins, Wyo., with a corps of engineers, making the preliminary survey for his big irrigating ditch, which will be taken out of the Platte river.

Mrs. J. H. Parker, wife of the cashier of the First National bank at Baker City, Oregon, has committed suicide by taking an overdose of morphine. Domestic infelicity was the cause of the suicide.

The Union Pacific railway is building a hotel at Point of Rocks, Wyoming. It is currently reported that a stage line will soon be placed on the line between that point and the South Pass gold fields.

The Oroville, (Cal.), Mercury is urging the formation of a co-operative company there to erect a fruit cannery. The growth of deciduous fruit orchards in the vicinity of Oroville the last five years has been almost phenomenal.

Detectives at Denver nipped in the bud a very clever swindle on Tuesday. C. L. Cobbs, alias Combs, alias Evans, alias Forrester, and Lillie Evans are now under arrest, charged with obtaining money under false pretenses. Both are colored.

Harry Perkins, a boy of fourteen years, walked off the platform of the last mail on the Union Pacific railroad, near Hamstork, Idaho, on Tuesday night. When found he was badly mangled. Both legs and one arm were found to be broken. It is supposed to be a case of somnambulism. The train was running forty miles an hour when he fell, and it is very remarkable that he was not instantly killed.

On Tuesday it came to the ears of Customs Collector Finagan at El Paso, Texas, that a large amount of opium had been recently smuggled into that city. Deputy Campbell was sent to search for the drug and the mugger and found both. Dr. C. F. Davis, a specialist in the city of Juarez, Mexico, was found with sixty pounds of opium. The goods were at once declared contraband but the offender escaped to his home across the line.

A sensation was created in the gov-

ernor's office yesterday (Tuesday), says the Denver News, by the discovery that the engrossed copy of senate bill No. 23 was missing. The bill provided for the transfer of \$92,780 from the general fund of 1890 to the improvement fund upon which a number of bills for expenditures are based. The bill was stolen from the assembly building, but the engrossed copy was found several days ago and placed in the governor's hands. The instrument could not be found at a late hour, and unless it turns up in the papers at the attorney general's office, is hopelessly lost.

The several hundred Chinese who arrived on the steamer China on Saturday, at San Francisco, on their way to Chicago for exhibition as Chinese villagers, were allowed to proceed by rail to the World's Fair city on Wednesday. Collector Phelps assured himself that the Chinese who presented certificates were entitled to land and they were hurried off on the morning train. Every possible precaution has been taken, however, to prevent their residence in the country after the closing of the exposition. Although the consul at Hong Kong furnished each man with a certificate of identification, the customs officers deemed it expedient to supply themselves with much additional data. By this means it is thought that any attempt at fraud can be easily foiled.

The body of William McCracken, who disappeared from 2211 Webster street, San Francisco, about three weeks ago, was found floating in the bay of Lombard street wharf Tuesday morning. The corpse was badly decomposed, but, from the clothing and paper found on his person, was identified by a brother of the deceased. McCracken arrived in the city on September 3rd from Australia. He had not been in business for some time, and shortly previous to his departure for this country had suffered a severe attack of sunstroke, which had somewhat deranged his mind. It is presumed that during a fit of despondency he committed suicide by jumping overboard. Deceased was a native of Ireland, forty years of age and unmarried.

On Tuesday afternoon about 2 o'clock a young colored woman entered the office of Mr. W. S. Chessman and showed him a book, in which was written his name opposite a subscription of \$50 for the Colored Women's Aid association. Mr. Chessman was about to pay the money when he glanced more closely at the writing and discovered that his name had been forged, and he also had forgotten that he had ever subscribed the amount. His suspicions led him to speak rather roughly to the young colored girl, and she at once rushed out of the room and down the stairs. Mr. Chessman ordered the office boy to follow her and have her arrested. Once on the street the girl ran up Sixteenth street and was captured at the postoffice by Officer Wiggins. At the city hall she gave her name as Fanny Johnson. The book she had contained on two pages the names of a number of prominent citizens and business firms for amounts varying from \$10 to \$50. The girl, when brought before Chief Howe, confessed that she was but a fool in the swindle,