and turn the proceeds over to the Treasury of the United States. It makes the necessary appropriation to enable him to assume the debt, all of which except a little over one hundred and odd thousand dollars is now redeemable. On June 15 the time when Hawaii was to pay interest on the debt expires; and if we want to prevent an accumulation of interest, we ought to assume the debt and make provision for the payment of its interest.

Mr. COCKRELL. Do we continue the Postal Savings Bank there?

Mr. DANIEL. The bill provides for winding up immediately the whole matter. Indeed, it was provided in the act for the government of Hawaii—that is, that it should be a government of an independent institution, but the winding up was postponed until 1901. The bill provides for doing it immediately. The additional charge in the bill, I should state, is to the extent of $30,000, which is necessary to give the proper agencies to the Secretary of the Treasury to execute the act and leave the business all right in every particular.

Mr. HALE. I do not object if the bill does not give rise to any debate. If it does I must object.

Mr. TELLER. The bill has been read, but it has been utterly impossible in this part of the Chamber to know what the bill contains.

Mr. HALE. Mr. President, I will object for the present. The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is made, and the bill will go to the Calendar.

Mr. TELLER. The first information those in this part of the Chamber could get in regard to the bill was the statement made by the Senator from Virginia.

CIVIL OFFICES IN ALASKA, HAWAII, ETC.

Mr. ROSS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senate bill 3000 be taken up for the occasion of some remarks.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair lays the bill before the Senate.

The SECRETARY. A bill (S. 3000) regulating appointment to and removals from civil offices in outlying dependencies of the United States. Amendment of the Committee to Examine the Several Branches of the Civil Service. Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

That all appointments to civil offices made by the President or any head of a Department in Alaska, Hawaii, or any place brought within the jurisdiction of the United States by the recent treaties with Spain, shall be made irrespective of the political opinions of the persons appointed and only as consistent with the proper performance of the duties of the office, in such a manner as to represent the entire country. In case of removal from any such office, whenever practicable, charges shall be made in writing and a copy thereof furnished to the accused, who shall be afforded reasonable opportunity to make answer to a true copy of the charge and have the evidence produced by the party making the appointment, whenever the public interest shall seem to require it, suspend the official pending hearing or investigation of such charges—

Mr. ROSS. Mr. President, during the closing year of the century this nation has taken on new relations and entered upon the discharge of new duties. For the first time in her existence she has entered upon the difficult undertaking of governing dependencies, located quite remotely, having fixed customs and laws—growth of the centuries—the fundamental principles underlying which are the opposite of those which have ruled her in the past. I speak of them as dependencies because that word most clearly expresses their relation to this nation. "Territory" is a more general term and applies more strictly to the nation's ownership of the soil than to its relation to the inhabitants of the country. "Colony" less correctly expresses their true relation. Most of them are quite thickly populated and are not expected to become colonies nor to furnish a place for the overflow of our surplus population. All are, and for years will be, dependent, in a great measure, upon this nation for protection against foreign nations, for laws, and their due administration. They may properly be denominated "dependencies."

Whether this new work shall redound to the nation's glory or shame depends largely upon the spirit and manner in which it is entered upon and conducted. It is a trite and true saying, "Well begun is half done." Well may Congress and the nation enter cautiously, conservatively, and thoughtfully upon the discharge of these new and important duties, in which the welfare of nearly or quite 100,000,000 people is more or less involved. The measure before the Senate, if enacted into law and obeyed in spirit, in my judgment will be most helpful in the proper discharge of these important and difficult duties. Its details will be considered later.

The present Congress will doubtless provide for permanent governments in Alaska, in Hawaii, in Porto Rico, and for less permanent governments in the Philippine Islands and in Cuba. None of these by the act of cession or annexation have the promise of eventually being given statehood. Whether any of them ever will be admitted as states is a question not ripe now for determination, nor even for consideration.

The conditions to be met and provided for in the several dependencies differ widely among themselves, and among any others encountered by this nation. All the territories hitherto dealt with had, in advance, the promise, in due time, to be determined