PRICE FIVE CENTS.

BONDS JUGGLED:

H.W. Scott Exposes Gas Company's Iniquities.

CONSUMERS HAVE TO PAY COST

Dividends Taken From Their Pockets.

WITNESSES SHOW

Poorer Service, Bigger Bills, Discourtesies at Office, the Burden of Their Testimony Given at the Investigation.

GAS GRAFT IS EXPOSED.

dividends and interest on inflated capital of the Portland Gas Company, \$700,000 of the \$1,500,000 stock issue being "water," which makes high gas

rate per 1000 feet has been reduced, bills have increased, for the same amount of consumption, the increase n come cases amounting to 30 and 40 per cent, and even more.

pany disregards the rights of consum ers and by arbitrary meter readings adds further to the cost of gas.

Robertson, Dr. J. A. White, A. W. Cochran, H. W. Scott, J. E. Howard, W. Bailey, Dr. P. Burgette Short. 1. Litherland, H. A. Chapman, J. A Ester and H. H. Northup

Owing to the impossibility of extending the stenographic notes for this morning's teaus, the full accordingly

proposession of the company,

Reviews Company's Methods.

H. W. Scott, editor of The Oregonian, who was subpensed by the company, re- the investigating committee that H. W. viewed the stock-water and bond-infla- Scott editor of The Oregonian, one of the tion history of the company, showing subpensed witnesses, would have to leave that consumers were compelled to pay the city, and that if the attorneys of the dividends and interest on fictitious stock gas company desired him to go on the and bond issues. J. N. Teal and C. E. S. stand he would do so at that time. Mr. Wood, attorneys for the company, found Scott was called by Mr. Teal, and told him an unwieldy witness in their hands of the revelations of high charges and poor and his exposures defeated every attempt | quality that had been made to The Oregomade by them to confuse him on the in- nian, giving in addition some facts about tricate details of the stock and bond the watered stock of the gas corporation manipulation, and caused frequent bursts and its inflated bond issues. He said that of applause from the thronged Council he had written many of the editorials on

32000

strack sooner?" asked Mr. Teal. Why didn't the American revolution break out three or five or ten years responded Mr. Scott, and the

laughter that ensued caused Mr. Teal to guit the question. The First Witness,

E. Robertson, of Corbett, Failing & he himself received and published, the Robertson, who presented the bills re- managing editor, E. B. Piper, being abcrived from the gas company by his sent from the city. Below this letter he firm for the months of Novamber, Deprinted an announcement that The Orecember and January last, and the three gonian would investigate the charges corresponding months one year ago. made and let the public know if they were For November and December, 1934, correct, as it since has done. their gas bill was \$27.20. For the same month in 1905 it was \$41.20. The firm, for electricity showed a difference of time the watered stock was introduced." for the past January was \$25.50,

for the gas company, Mr. Robertson as- bonds the promoters expected the public seried that he was certain that the to pay dividends and interest. consumption of gas had been practically the same during the periods cited. All of the gas fixtures in his place of business were the same in 1505 as they had been the preceding years, and the time that gas was lit corresponded very closely

That Overread Meter.

"Well, might the meter not have been overread, and thus account for the increase?" asked Mr. Test.

"Of course, it might have been overread one month," replied the witness, but it would hardly have occurred three months in succession. There are three months that I am complaining And, besides, the period that my bills were highest was since the the price from \$1.25 to \$1.15 a thousand public?" asked Mr. Teal.

Dr. J. A. White, proprietor of a drug store on Morrison street, was the next

witness called to the stand. "The se called reduction did not reduce my he testified. "On the other something else raised them hand, it or materially. My bills were as follows: October, 1934, \$2.40; October, 1995, \$5.40; November, 1904, \$4; November, 1905, \$4.95; December, 1904, \$5; December, 1905, \$6.10.

Bills Grow Larger.

"During the months named of last year, I burned no more gas than I did the preceding year. I complained to the gas company, and they said that they would reread the meter. Maybe they did. I do not know. If they did, I have not heard about it, and I certainly had to pay my bills just the I used the same kind of burners all of the time, and, as my store it small and under my personal supervision, I know that no more gas was burned during the last period than the

The increase in the bills presented to the Oregonian Publishing Company and the deterioration of the quality of gas furnished was testified to by A. W. Cochran, operating engineer in the mechanical department of The Oregonian plant. As shown by his testimony, The Oregonian's gas bill for 1983 was \$1654.85; for 1904 it was \$1742, and for 1905 it was 1881.75. During the period covered there was a reduction from \$1.20 to \$1.15 in the nominal price of

Bills of Oregonian.

The Oregonian's gas bills by months, which were entered as an exhibit, are:

	January Sebruary March April May June July August September October	1903 \$1.30 rate, 143.80 156.10 127.45 147.80 123.10 123.10 133.140.50 130.50 130.50 130.50	143,25 160,80 135,85 152,65 106,15	\$1.25 rate \$ 165.0 145.0 107.7 156.1 162.2 156.2 156.2 156.4 141.0
ĺ	November	158.60	142.75	152.8
	Totals\$	1.654.65	\$1.742.00	\$1.881.7

Mr. Cochran explained that The Ore onian used gas in three departmentsiching, stereotyping and linotyping. In eply to questions from Mr. Text, he made gonian had been increased during the past hree years, the increase had not affected the amount of gas used. In the linotyping department there was a slight increase in naumption in 1994 as compared with 1903. lue to the addition of two machines, but in the other departments there had been no increase whatever. The gas was kept burning all the time, whether much or Hitle work was done, and therefore the amount of work done had no effect on

Quality of Gas Poorer.

He also showed that the quality of the as shown by the fact that It was necessary to increase the pressure to get the one units of heat formerly received from ment was supplied, he said, with apparatus to gauge the pressure given to the the insurance company arising out of a charged extertionate prices by the Port- linetype machines. It was now necessary contract between him and the company; land Gen Company for inferior gas and to have the water-gauge register a pres- in fact, however, the indictment charges compelled to pay bills that grow as the sure of from two to two and one-half the money was paid to Nicholls & Bacon scheduled rate is reduced, was brought inches, he asserted, to get the same reat before the special investigating com- suits that used to be received from a presmittee of the City Council last night in sure of less than two inches. In other cities where he had worked in the same The witnesses showed by comparison business from three-fourths to one inch of between bills of recent date and of cor- pressure, as registered by the water responding months in other years that in gauge, was sufficient to do the work. He spite of professed reductions in gas rates, further added that the poor quality was bills are 40 per cent higher and even shown by the fact that it was found more than that, than before the reduc- necessary to clean the burners oftentions were made, owing to the weak and sometimes six times in one night. From diluted property of the gas, and over- his previous experience he asserted that charge methods whose secrets were the the burners should need cleaning only once in months.

Mr. Scott a Witness.

At this juncture Mr. McGinn inform the subject of gas which had appeared in Why didn't The Oregonian begin this The Oregonian, and that the letters and interviews which had been published had been under other supervisio

Tells of First Complaint.

He said that the first article of complaint against the gas company which ap peared in The Oregonian was a communication from P. E. Stowell, who is with The first testimony was that of W. the firm of M. Seller & Co. This letter

"When the transfer of the gas plant was made from Green, Leonard and othhe said, used both electricity and gas, ers, through the intermediate company to and between these months their bill the present corporation, that was the only & cents, showing that they had said Mr. Scott in explaining some of the not consumed less electricity, and con- questionable transactions of the organisequently more gas, during the closing zation. "The present company in 1832 months of 1905. The January gas bill fixed a capital stock of \$1,000,000 and for the firm last year was \$18.65, and issued bonds of \$1.999,000. The property at this time was worth perhaps 2000,000. When cross-examined by Mr. Teal On this immense amount of stock and

Rake-Off in Deal.

"Just how the stock and bonds were divided among the people interested and what the rake-off of the intermediate company was, I cannot say. That is what the public wants to know. Mr. Adams was asked about that, and he said it was none of our business. About that intermediate company, the public knew nothing before this investigation and knows little yet, owing to the reticence of Mr. Adams. But it is known that an intermediate agent of that character is usually organized in a stockjobbing business of this sort."

"Was not this investigation taken up. by The Oregonian from personal motives and not because The Oregonian wanted company has been supposed to reduce to take up the charges made by, the

"No, it was not," was the reply. have no personal feeling in the matter.

(Concluded on Page 10.)

MEN ARE INDIGTED

Two Burnhams and Eldredge Accused of Grand Larceny and Forgery.

JUGGLING WITH THE FUNDS

Principal Officers of Mutual Reserve Life Charged With Using Company's Funds to Settle Personal Lawsuits.

NEW YORK, March & - Indictments charging grand larceny in the first degree and forgery in the third degree by Frederick A. Burnham, president; George D. Eldridge, first vice-president, and George Burnham, Jr., second vice-prestdent of the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance Company, were found by the grand Five indicaments were brought against each officer, two for grand inceny and three for forgery. The alleged larceny and forgery was brought about, according to the indictments, by payments of \$000 of the company's money to law firms, the apparent purpose of which is alleged to have been to settle claims against the company, while the real object is alleged to have been to settle actions which had been brought against officers of the company as Individuals. The indictments on which s charge of larceny is based alleged that the officers embezzled two sums, one of t clear that, although the size of The Ore- \$7500 and the other of \$1500, on October 24, 1901.

Call Crimes Technical.

The three officers appeared in the Court of General Session, where Judge O'Sullivan fixed their ball at \$12,500 for each and fixed upon next Thursday as the time George Burnham, Jr., when seen at the

had been announced, said: "We had been expecting this and have engaged counsel to defend us. Aside from stating that, if there has been any crime committed, it is but a technical one, do not care to discuss the case."

company's office after the jury's action

In the first case of alleged forgery, the indictment charges that \$3500 was entered it the cash book as paid to Nicholla lover p essure. The mechanical depart- & Bacon, attorneys of P. J. Armstrong. to settle a claim of Armstrong against in settler as attorneys for J. Douglas Wells, had previously brought against Frederick A. Burnham individually.

> The second indictment for forgers charges that the defendants caused the item of \$1500 to be entered on the company's books as made in payment t James, Schell & Elkus as for legal services rendered by them to the company In reality, declares the indictment, the money was paid with instructions to turn it over to the attorney of J. Douglass Wells to reimburse Wells for disburseby him in defending actions brought against him by Frederick A Burnhan individually and by George D. Eldridge individually, and in order to induce Wells to consent to a discontinuance of those

actions. Settled Personal Lawsuits.

The third indictment for forgery is based on the payment of \$5000 of the company's money on September 24, 1901. That payment, the indictment charges, was entered in the cash book as made to James, Schell & Elkus for legal services. The real purpose of this payment is, however, alleged to have been for delivery to Baldwin & White, attorneys for J. Thompson Patterson, for the purpose of settling one action which Patterson had previously brought against the company and against Frederick A. Burnham and George D. Eldridge individually, and against Patterson, one by George Eldridge individually, one by Frederick A. Burnham and one by the company.

CHICAGO BANK PRESIDENT UN-DER ARREST.



John R. Walsh, president of the defunct Chicago National Bank, is now tional banking laws in making false rency and also of converting to his of the bank amounting

Mutual Reserve, the grand jury has before it a general consideration of insur ance companies. Regarding this general situation the jury recently asked Judge O'Sullivan of the Court of General Sea alon questions for guidance in the pro-posed investigation. Today Judge O'Sul-livan and also District Attorney Jerome advised the jury to wait before beginning its investigation until opinions of legal authorities can be obtained upon

the questions involved. INSURANCE FORCES GATHER

Thousand at Albany to Oppose Proposed Reform in Law.

ALBANY, N. Y., March S .- Representatives of life insurance interests throughout the United States are assembling in this city tonight to participate tomorrow in the hearing to b given before the special legislative insurance investigating committee o the measures proposed to perfect the state insurance law, to correct evils in the company management discovered in the recent inquiry, and to better protect the policy-holders. Officers, attorneys, actuaries and committees representing companies which will be affected by the pending legislation and representative organizations of life insurance underwriters are here, and their number will be greatly augmented tomorrow by the presence of at least 156s active insurance agents.

The programme for tomorrow will be drawn with a view to completing the hearing in one day. The legislacurtail the time given speakers. The hearing will be had in the Assembly chamber and in the presence practically of the entire membership of the Legislature

The representatives of the agents will address themselves mainly to the sections of the general amendment bill, which limits the expenses of agencies and sets-a muximum amoun of policy-writing for any one year.

COMMITTEE TO SEEK REFORM

Policy-Holders of Mutual Life Choose One From Each State.

WASHINGTON, March 8.-The Mutual Life Policyholders' Association tonight gave out a partial list of the members of the executive committee, which is to consist of one member from each state, with the announced purpose of bringing about reformation in the management of the Mutual Life of New York. B. N. Baker, of Baltimore, president of the Baltimore Trust & Guarantee Company, was chosen as chairman.

Representatives from but a few of the Eastern and Southern States were named tenight. Committeemen from other states are being actorted.

John Warner and D. Cady Herrick, of New York, counsel for the association are expected to appear at Albany before a committee of the New York Legislature tomorrow in the interests of policy-hold-

Johnson Will Act With Fish.

MINNEAPOLIS, March 8 .- Governor Johnson, as a member of the Lawson insurance committee, has consented to act with the Stuyvesant Fish committhe reorganization of York Life and Mutual Life Insurance

CHOATE ACCEPTS RETAINER

Will Aid Mutual Life Committee in House-Cleaning.

NEW YORK, March &-It was officially nnounced at the offices of the Mutual Life Insurance Company yesterday that Joseph H. Choate had accepted the posttion of attorney to the Mutual's self-in vestigating committee, recently vacated by James B. Dill and others when Stuyvesant Fish left the committee. nittee, recently vacated

It is understood that Mr. Choate insist-ed on assurances that the investigation would be thorough in every line of the company's affairs and that he would be absolutely untrammeled in his work as counsel. There was some doubt in Mr. Choate's mind as to the propriety of his accepting a retainer from the committee and acting as counsel for the company in the McCurdy and Raymond & Co. suits at the same time. The members of the committee, it is said, assured him that his relations with the company would not interfere in the least with his work for

It is thought likely that a third member to take the place left vacant by t resignation of Mr. Fish will be named a few days,

Samuel Untermyer, counsel for the new ly organized international postcyholders' committee, was in Roston yesterday. It is said that he had a talk with Thomas W. Lawson, and that Lawson agreed to sever himself entirely from the movement which he has been organizing against the Mu-tual Life and turn his proxies over to the new committee.

The personnel of the Plan committee

Mutual Life Business Declines.

will be announced in a few days

NEW YORK, March !- The annual repany for 1906 to the Insurance Department uring that year new insurance am to \$181,662,643, as against \$229,532,400 in 196

BALLOON FALLS ONE MILE

Nine Italian Soldiers Dashed Down to Awful Death. ROME. March 9.-(Special.)-The envel-

ope of the military balloon which was making an ascent at Civita Lavignia, 18 miles southeast of this city, yesterday. burst at a height of over a mile, and a Captain and eight soldiers who were in the car were dashed to the ground. All were killed.

Three Killed in Collision. SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y., March &

-Three deaths have followed the wreck of the local passenger train on the Dela-ware & Hudson railroad, bound from Rutland, VL., for Troy, which, while held Rutland, Vt., for Troy, which, while held up by a freight wreck near the local station, was run down by the Montreal flyer, southbound, last night. The dead are: Mrs. Charles Esmond, age 40 years, of Caneswoort; Gertrude Esmond, her daughter, age 10 years; Frank A. Sindecuse, a traveling salesman, of Buffalo. Frank Cardes, of Albany; Frank Terse, of Albany; Nelson M. Varney, of Sandy Hill, and Berton B. Bowney, of Saratogs, were injured.

Any Old Thing Will Do for Material, but Prices Cause Palpitation.

MIRACLES IN HEADGEAR

Hat From British Columbia Which Would Silence Brass Band-Others From Paris Look Piratical and Dissipated.

CHICAGO, March 8 .- (Special.)-The 900 ountry dressmakers who have been here all week attending the sessions of the National Dressmakers' Protective Assolation were reinforced today by almost an equal number of country milliners, who astened in to attend the opening of the National Milliners' Convention, Consequently, there were tumultuous doings all fay in both conventions.

The dreasmakers' convention closed this vening with an essay on "Art in Dress," y Miss Elizabeth A. C. White, who looks he part herself. Taking a few simple jackets, she rapidly tore them apart, dopped them this way and that, speedily pinned a tuck there and a furbelow here, and presently she had produced a brandew garment, for which a stiff sum might se charged-and collected. In no case did he material amount to much, but for the art-well, one expects to pay for art.

Would Have Farmers Loosen Up.

The country dressmakers, who have to deal with tight-wad farmers and women who turn their bombazines inside out every three years, took careful note of the metamorphoses, but shook their heads sadly as they contemplated getting \$15 for a dress and then collecting \$65 extra for assembling the same in an artistic man-

Miss White also obligingly showed how it is possible to make a Princess dress drape gracefully over hips measuring 59

Too Short or Too Long?

The principal model today was declared by Mile. White to be perfect, absolutely erfect, with the slight exception that her akirts should be two inches longer. One of the men present had the brazen effrontery to say that after the dressmakers had pulled her extremities with their prices, her skirt measure would be plenty long enough. However, that was not part of the lecture, and was met with contracted | in sightseeing. brows and sniffing noses. Men are so

fresh and irrelevant, anyway. There was considerable disappointment at the milliners' convention be cause the perfectly heavenly creations that are to be shown had not been unpacked.

"Putience, have patience, my dears," ounseled Mme. Hunt, president of the association. "We have here some perfeetly divine hats."

Such a Love of a Hat.

Slowly, as the afternoon waned, the rude, coarse men who were prying the lids off the boxes proceeded with their work and the women began to throw spasms as the "creations" were brought forward.

One hat that has journeyed all the way from British Columbia found many admirers. It had a dinky little frame with a dado of lace underneath, different varieties of brilliant-hued flowers. The women gasped and Miss White showed a disposition to renig on her broad statement of yesterday that styles this year were to be extremely modest and subdued. But it was such a love of a hat-price 30

Giddy Creations From Paris.

In addition, there were some disphanous things sald to have been imported from Paris which nearly caused an epidemic of cardiacal prostration when they were flashed across the

MAN WHO BEAT GENERAL GROSVENOR.



Athert Douglas, who defeated Gen eral Groavenor for the Republican (Ohio) District, is an attorney at and was graduated from the Harvard law school 52 years ago. He has been County Attorney, and seven years ago the delegate from his county pre-Republican state convention.

board. The shapes of the new hats are simply villainous from the standpoint or viewpoint of a man. To all in-tents and purposes they have spent the Winter in an ashbarcel and have been maltreated severely by a negre carpet-beater. They are to sit on the head at a piratical tilt, giving the wearer the air of having had champagne for breakfast,

SEND MISSIONARIES AWAY Senate Committee Is

Chinese Escort Protestants, but Catholics Refuse to Leave.

SHANGHAL March &-The Protestant missionaries at Suichou Province of Kiangsi, have been escorted to Klukiang. The Catholic missionaries at Suichou refused to leave the place, and the Governor is sending another escort for them.

The Chinese concerned in the recent rioting at Nanchang, Province of Kiangsi, have confessed their guilt, but main-tain that they were justified in attacking Catholics, as the latter had stabled the magistrate.

SMUGGLING ARMS TO CHINA

Rifles and Ammunition Seized on Steamer Manchuria.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 8.-The Examiner says today that 22 modern rifles and 10,000 rounds of ammunition were seized yesterday in the quarters of the Chinese crew on the Pacific Mail steamer Manchuria, scheduled to sail for the Ori-ent this afternoon. The company's offi-cials thereupon ordered as thorough a search of the vessel as possible, and this resulted in two more boxes of rifles being found in the room of one of the assistant engineers. The engineer and the Chinese were questioned, and it was found that the guns had been purchased in this city by the engineer and smuggled aboard the vessel. The officials say they believe that there are no more gun on board, but this will not be until the freight has been discharged from the steamer upon her arrival at Hongkong.

GUNS TO GUARD MISSIONARIES

Chinese Commander Sends Artillery to Shuntefu, Near Pekin. LONDON, March 9.- The corresponden of the Tribune at Pekin says that Yuan Shi Kai, commander-in-chief of the im-

perial Chinese forces, yesterday forwarded 18 mountain guns from Tientsin to Shuntefu, 150 miles south of Pekin, in the Province of Chi Li. Shuntefu is the seat of a mission of the

American Presbyterian Board, and there are located there Dr. J. L. Whit-ing and wife, Rev. E. C. Hawley and wife, Dr. G. W. Hamilton and wife, and Dr. Louis E. Keater.

Chinese Emperor Is III. PEKIN, March 8.—The Emperor of China Tsai Tien, is iii. Telegrams have been dispatched to all the Viceroys of China, asking them to send their best physicians to Pekin. The physicians at the pelace here say the Emperor's illness is serious but not also with

Chinese Visitors at Niagara.

is serious, but not alarming

BUFFALO, N. Y., March 8 .- Prince Tsai Tse and party arrived at Niagara Falls this morning and passed the day

CONTENTS TODAY'S PAPER

The Weather. YESTERDAY'S Maximum temperature, deg.; minimum, 44. Precipitation, none. TODAY'S Fair. North to east winds.

Fureign. No successor to Rouvier found in France Algeciras conference talks of compromise.

Frequent robberies cause closing of money order offices in Poland. Page 4. Nine soldiers in balloon fall from mile height in Italy. Page 1. Britain's new war minister outlines military policy. Page 8.

Government has evidence of rebates given Sugar Trust. Page 2. Senate debates statehood bill and will vote on it today. Page 1. Senators seek solution of appeal problem in rate bill. Page i

Senate committee unanimous for Columbia jetty appropriation. Page 1 Standard Oil officials confer with Rossevelt.

Fage f

President takes measures against tuberculosis in civil service. Page 8.

Domestic. Three officers of Mutual Reserve Life in-dicted for stealing. Page 1. Mutual Life policy-holders combine for reform. Page 1. Armour accuses Gover shadowed. Page 3. Government of having him

Dressmakers' convention ends and millin-ers' begins. Page 1. Striker in New York burns nonunion em-ployer with ampionia. Page 4. Frantic efforts to save Zion from bank-ruptcy. Page 5.

Scores in bowling tournament at Salt Lake. Page 7.

Pacific Coast. Blunders at Boise prevent pfeading of Federation prisoners. Page 6, Anti-pass law will result in added expenses to state government. Page 6. Columbia Northern Irrigation Company or-dered to present its rules. Page 6. College orators to declaim at Albany to-night. Page 6.

Gray's Harbor protests on alleged discrim-ination of Northern Pacific. Page 6. Commercial and Marine. Large run of salmen and firm market ex-pected. Page 15. Activity in pig tron trade. Page 15. cold-storage apples at San Franvance in Chicago wheat market. Page 15.

Relaxation in money aids stock prices.

rage 16.

pet of Portland Commission postpones action on petition of the Portland & Seattle Railway Company for the purpose of holding consultation with O. R. & N. officials. Page 14. Pilot who took the missing bark Drumcraig to sea says she was top heavy when she crossed out over the Columbia River bar.

Page 14. Portland and Vicinity. Willamette Valley Traction Company mer explain Front-street offer. Page 10. At the gas investigation H. W. Scott ex-poses the juggling of bonds and the wa-tering of the stock of the corporation. Page 1.

Rev. W. G. Ellot, Jr., installed as paster of the First Unitarian Church. Page 11. Rabbi Landau, of Boston, comes to Portland and may succeed Dr. Wise at Temple Both Israel, Page 14.

Rocapile prisoners testify that Guard John-son is brutal. Page 5.

ington, March & Chairman Frank Baker lunched today with Vice-President Fair-banks and Senator Fulton. Later he will have a conference with Mr. Fairbanks.

READY TO ALLOW CASH FOR JETTY

United for Bill.

FULTON MAKES STRONG CASE

Appropriation of \$400,000 Is Recommended.

PILES GIVES FRIENDLY HELP

Provision Is Made in Amendment to the Sandry Civil Bill and Special Measure-Senate Will Pass It.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washngton. March 5 .- The Senate commitee on commerce today voted unanimously to report favorably Senator Fulton's amendment to the sundry civil bill, appropriating \$430,000 for ontinuing work on the Columbia River jetty, with a view to its preservation until Congress shall hereafter make provision for its completion. On advice of Senator Frye, chairman of the committee. Mr. Fulton did not attempt to amend his amendment, as recommended by the Secretary of War, so as to authorize contracts to complete the jetty to its full projected length, because it was universally agreed that any such change would certainly defeat the entire amendment and kill the \$460,000 appropriation which now seems within grasp. Rather than run this risk. Mr. Fulton asked for a favorable report merely on his amendment as originally drawn.

Fulton's Convincing Argument.

The commerce committee, before actng, gave a hearing to Mr. Fulton, who at some length pointed out the necessity for the adoption of his amendment, showing that, unless the money is provided, more than a mile of uncompleted jetty now unfinished will be entirely lost, because of the certain destruction of the tramways. Unless his amendment is adopted, Mr. Fulton declared the tramway would be utterly destroyed by teredos during the coming season, and, once the tramway is gone, the half-dnished portion of the jetty will be absolutely lost, because it will be impossible to build new treaties over unfinished rock work. This loss, he said, would cost the Government fully \$500,000, and would set back work on the fetty not less than two years. He showed that good business principles demand that the incomplete work he protected, and this can only be done by the immediate expenditure of \$100.000, as explained by the Army engineers.

Committee Pledges Help.

The committee was thoroughly convinced of the advisability of making this appropriation, and assured Mr. Fulton that it would individually and collectively aid him in securing the adoption of his amendment. While the committee is not favorable to making appropriations for new river and har-, bor work at this session, it regards this project as an extreme emergency. To increase the chances of getting this appropriation, the committee authorized a favorable report on an original bill identical in terms with Mr. Fulton's amendment, and, in case one plan falls, the other will be pressed.

Senator Piles, of Washington, who is a member of the commerce committee and extremely friendly to Columbia River improvement, is an enthusiastic supported of Mr. Fulton's amendment. He, like other members of the committec, believes the action of the committee today makes it absolutely certain that the Senate will attach the amendment to the sundry civil bill, but realizes that a fight will come when the bill goes back to the House. Speaking of today's action, Mr. Piles said:

Piles Praises Fulton's Work.

"The people of Oregon should feel very grateful to Senator Fulton for his splendid efforts in their behalf. In his remarks this morning before our committee he made one of the clearest and most convincing arguments I ever heard. Senator Fulton is popular in the Senate; I can safely say that nearly every member of our committee is his personal friend and wanted to do him personal favors. It was only necessary for him to show an actual necessity for the appropriation in order to get a favorable report on his amend-

"Congress at this time is not friendly to river and harbor appropriations. and is day after day turning down projects which are strongly supported and which possess much merit, but it was only in this instance, where the gravest emergency was shown to exist, that our committee yielded. It has not made a single other exception to its rule. This is the only new appropriation we have authorized, and we believe it will be the only one to come out of our committee this session."

Baker With Fairbanks and Fulton. OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Wash-