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PINCHOT ON THE WITNESS STAND TODAY

TELLS OF HIS EFFORTS WITH THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY TO GET SOME ACTION

BALLINGER ACCUSED OF Duplicity AND DISHONESTY

Sensational point in Ballinger investigation is reached today when Pinchot takes the stand in his own behalf—Says story will come out from witnesses to be called at his own suggestion—Accusations are sharp

Walla Walla, Feb. 26.—The departure of E. W. Goodrich, a government official, this morning with Chief Forest Ranger Guide for the mountains is believed to be a forerunner of the withdrawal of many more water power sites on the Walla Walla, Salmon and other streams. Goodrich refused to talk of his mission, but it is known to be connected with the Forestry Department.

Washington, Feb. 26.—Gifford Pinchot on the witness stand today accused Ballinger of overturning the conservation policies of Roosevelt,

and making false statements to President Taft.

He charged that Ballinger entered the office with the intention of making short work of the policy of protecting water sites against monopolistic control.

He said he was convinced Glavis was a faithful public servant and Ballinger a dangerous enemy to conservation.

"When the story has been told," Pinchot said, "and the witnesses I shall ask you to call have been heard you will realize that the interests of the people are not safe in Ballinger's hands."

Pinchot referred to the letter sent to President Taft on Nov. 4. Pinchot said he advised Glavis to let the Alaskan matter before the president.

He said that Ballinger did not notify the forestry service of the application had been made to patent the Cunningham claims, though part of them lay within the forest reserves, and later denied access to the records in the case to men representing the forestry department.

The letter states that on March 20, 1909, Secretary Ballinger began to restore to entry without advertisement lands that had been withdrawn by Garfield. "You (Taft)" continues the letter, "said that the reopening of the lands had been mentioned to you by Ballinger, but that he had not told you what it meant and you would see him about it. Thereupon the policy of restoration was reversed and what has been declared to be illegal was soon to be within lay of withdrawals begun."

Pinchot also charged that Ballinger's unfriendly attitude toward reclamation service threatened to disintegrate that service.

County Clerk and Mrs. Ed Wright arrived home last evening from Union where they were called to attend the funeral of Mr. Wright's aunt, the late Mrs. Joseph Wright.

12 INCHES OF FALLS TODAY

A SUDDEN CHANGE OF RAIN AND THAW TO SNOWSTORM PUTS A NEW ASPECT ON AFFAIRS

MANY TRAINS STALLED IN CASCADE MOUNTAINS

Situation in Washington is growing worse every hour—Many passengers marooned in mountains—can't be rescued—Something a silverthaw occurs here where trees began to droop under load.

Everett, Wash., Feb. 26.—The snow blockade on the Great Northern growing worse each hour. A heavy snow fell last night in the mountains completely wiping out the work previously done in clearing the track. Six passenger trains are still stalled. Rains are now playing havoc with the coast lines. Two trains were wrecked last night between Seattle and Bellingham, running into washouts. The fireman on one train was injured.

Nine inches of snow fell in La Grande between morning and one o'clock and the fall from then until press time has been estimated at three inches. Of this remarkable fall three inches fell between the hours of 12 and one o'clock. Weather Observer Worstell takes his observations at these hours and found the above figures. Following on the rapid thaw of yesterday and the day before, it has thrown a new aspect on the general storm conditions of the section of the state.

Silver Thaw Relative Here. Something akin to a silver thaw occurred here this morning during the blinding snowstorm that prevailed during the morning. Limbs of the trees are hanging low from their load of wet snow. The shabby trees are hanging low and there is danger to the larger trees unless the snow is removed soon.

Agent Jones Repudiated.

Seattle, Feb. 26.—Federal Judge Hanford and District Attorney Todd today deny the testimony of Special Agent Jones before the Ballinger investigating committee in Washington yesterday. "The statements of Jones are absolutely false" said Todd this morning. "I didn't say Judge Hanford was constitutionally opposed to land fraud cases. The reason I did not want to prosecute was because he didn't want to be humiliated by having them turned down. Jones was a perfect stranger to me and a personal friend of Glavis and is trying to shield him."

"The statement that I am opposed to land fraud cases is utterly false" said Hanford.

Murphy out of Jail

Philadelphia, Feb. 26.—President Murphy of the Central Labor Union, who was arrested yesterday for inciting a riot following publication of an interview threatening trouble for the authorities, was released on bonds today. Murphy denied the statement. Indications are that little trouble will occur during the day. The company offers to take back the strikers should they return by Tuesday.

Dual Wrestling Meet

Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 26.—A dual wrestling meet with the grapplers from Cornell is the principal event on the athletic card of the University of Pennsylvania.

NO SOLUTION OF FORENSIC

LA GRANDE AND BAKER BROTHERS EVEN AND THE CHAMPIONS IS STILL UNKNOWN

NEGATIVE TEAM MAKES REMARKABLE SHOWING THIS

Decision of two to one for Baker City comes as a surprise—Finch's most polished speech of any of the visitors here—Will know in a few days where the tie is to be decided by dual debate.

Forensic championship of this district is no nearer solution today than it was yesterday at this time. Grande won at Baker City yesterday by a two to one decision, and Baker City won from La Grande by the same count, making an even break.

The conquerors, Joe Ingle, A. Meyers and Will Hamilton returned at noon today, with Prof. Stout, report that no solution of the predicament has been reached. It is probable, however, that each team will send only one team against the other to decide the tie.

Prof. Stout reports that the Grande team at Baker City behaved in an extraordinary clever manner on the Baker rostrum. Joe Ingle's rebuttal was one of the features of the evening and Meyers and Hamilton each did their parts without flaw. The decision was a popular one, even in Baker City.

The affair will be straightened out in a few days.

The Debate Here.

Baker City pinned its arguments almost entirely on the assertion that the public service corporation were the basis of corruption in municipal politics, advancing the argument that there is no relief in the commission plan of government. "The root of all evil," said leader Finch, "must be removed before the desired increase in efficiency can be secured." This basic argument was convincingly picked to pieces by Kerr, who with chart aid demonstrated how the ward was used as the tool for carrying measures and seating officers of questionable character, under the present ward system, but showed the relief in the commission plan, which has no wards, and therefore makes it impossible for bosses to work any one series of wards. Because public service corporations must have some unit to work with they will be fooled in the general election of the city as a whole on every candidate for office of any kind. The keynote of the negative argument was in this phase of it, and was conclusively knocked to pieces by affirmative arguments.

Leader Finch followed Roy Currey with a brilliant oration. He placed the basis of the negative team's argument in a clear and concise manner and outlined that each of his colleagues would do. He gave but little attention to argument himself, spending most of his oration in an eloquent portrayal of what others would do. He did, however, adopt premises and conclusions not stipulated in the question, and these may have had some effect on the judges. As for example, he denied that the affirmative show that the commission plan would root out and abolish forever the existing graft. The question only stipulated that an increased efficiency be proven. His opening address was superior to that of Leader Currey on the affirmative side and it was in this one address only that Baker City outclassed its

opponents on delivery and conciseness.

George Currey followed with the tenets of the affirmative argument, his delivery, his line of argument, his presentation and his originality was superior in every way to his successor, Miss Cole who dwelt entirely with existing conditions in the large office attempting to prove that the public service corporation is the only way to find all the graft.

The argument of Miss Cole strengthened to affirmative. If the corporations by the ward methods can control municipal affairs, that evil will be removed by eliminating the basis, with which they can work. This was brought out in rebuttal. George Kerr drove home the ward plans of transportation of voters and juryman in general. With the aid of a chart he showed how foreign elements were transported from one section of a city to another, under cover of the municipal improvement plan, taking voters from overwhelming corrupt precincts to other less secure. The commission plan removes the wards, hence the "root" was pulled out by the negative, had been discovered and removed. His arguments, abetted by those of his predecessors, was sufficient at that point to carry the battle, according to general acceptance.

Donalds recapitulated for Baker City. His first two minutes of argument were excellent, producing a substitute for the present plan, taking the Wisconsin plan as a pattern. As his recapitulation progressed he forgot his speech and finished with a poor lapse of memory that completely spoiled his effectiveness at the first. He said all he had to say in the first two minutes, if he had said then, he would have carried conviction.

Finch's rebuttal was a flat failure. He said but little, and in these few words affirmed Boston had not adopted the commission plan of government, while in reality it had. He spent considerable time showing how the bosses would manipulate the vote in wards under the commission plan the same as it is now done—when as every one knows there are no wards in that system and that the city as a whole votes on every commissioner. Roy Currey closed for the affirmative and produced as fine a rebuttal as has ever been heard here. It was splendid, pronounced in clear, unmistakable terms. He picked up many of the misstatements of his opponents and summed up in a general way. His rebuttal made it evident to the audience—which by the way was fairly large—that La Grande had the debate at least two to one. "Unani-

MANY WOMEN BRAVE SNOW TO CAST VOTE

Scholastic advancement or standstill was the all-absorbing topic in La Grande today and not daunted by storms, women taxpayers of the city took no small part in the attendant activities.

Immediately upon the hours for the polls to open for the special bond issue settlement, voters were on hand to cast their opinions. The vote progressed at steady intervals during the afternoon, showing the great amount of interest which the new high school building has incited in the city.

Both factions were hard at work, and while there was no violation of the Corrupt Practice Act as applied to general election, there was nevertheless strenuous effort to get a representative vote.

At a late hour in the day, friends of the new building grew confident and feel sure of the success of the vote.

Vote Unusually Heavy

At the end of the first hour, 164 votes had been cast, and 25 more were in line waiting for an opportunity to vote. At the same time there were besides those actually in line, scores headed for the school house in large and on foot.

Show Company Here

The "House of the Thousand Candles" company arrived on the delayed No. Seven from Baker City and will appear at the Steward this evening. The curtain will rise at nine o'clock, thus giving the clerks and business men a chance to witness the performance.

Fencers in Contest

West Point, N. Y., Feb. 26.—The Columbia University fencing team is here today for a contest with the swordsmen of the Military Academy.

Months for La Grande" was the outspoken opinion as Currey sat down. Others gave Finch and Miss Cole credit for splendid oratory in the opening and second speeches, and admitted a two to one victory.

The hush of astonishment that fell over the audience when a two to one for the negative was read off can be well imagined.

Come Once and You'll Come Again

You like to trade at a store where you are so treated that you have a desire to come again.

We try always to provide that sort of treatment for our customers.

We appreciate the trade of the public and this appreciation finds expression in a constant endeavor to make our customers feel at home and to make them feel that we are endeavoring at all times to furnish the best possible goods at the most reasonable prices.

Newlin Drug Co.

You Are Invited



Ladies you are invited to see our advance showing of early Spring suits. We have spared neither time nor money to place before the ladies of La Grande the best line of ladies suits we have ever shown.

We urge you to make your selections early as the best styles will be on display early

ALTERATIONS FREE

We Have Them

You will find here the latest weaves and styles

Serges

We have these popular suits in all shades. Prices \$15.00 to \$39.00

Fancy Weaves

A fine assortment of suits in the very latest. Prices \$12. to \$25.

Novelties

You will find here something different. Prices \$18. to \$30.



THE FAIR