

RUSSIA INSULT
TONE OF BILL

SPECIAL SESSION CALLED BY TAFT THIS AFTERNOON.

PASSPORT ISSUE ATTRACTS EXCLUSIVE ATTENTION TODAY

All Americans Can Be Excluded From Russia if Treaty is Abrogated—Insult to Russia, Says Secretary of State Knox—Russia Angered at the Tone of Sulzer Measure to Kill Treaty.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 16.—President Taft called a special session of the legislature this afternoon to consider the Sulzer resolution. The executive session began at four o'clock.

That the Sulzer resolution to abrogate the 1832 treaty with Russia will be considered an "insult to Russia," if enacted into law, is the substance of a message conveyed to Taft by Secretary of State Knox today. Knox previously conferred with Ambassador Bakhmetoff of Russia.

Diplomatic negotiations seeking a settlement of the passport question have been broken as a result of Russian dissatisfaction over the action of the house.

The Russian message was not a threat. They don't object to abrogation of the treaty but they don't like the language of the Sulzer resolution which flatly charges Russia with bad faith.

The house says the entire situation is now placed in the senate foreign relations committee, and that it is now up to them. Congressman Sulzer said he believed the resolution would pass the senate whether Russia protested or not. Congressman Mann of Illinois, the minority leader, is opposed to the wording of the resolution, and said: "If the resolution passes the senate, Russia can, if she desires, shut out all Americans if the treaty is abrogated. If we are determined that Americans shall go into Russia that country can only force its exclusion by conquering us at the end of a war."

"Frenzied Financier" Faces Trial.

Jackson, Miss., Dec. 16.—The many persons who suffered financial loss through the failure several years ago of the Central Bank of Mississippi are looking forward with much interest to the trial of W. J. Rice, which is scheduled to begin here Monday. Rice was the promoter of the bank and in entire control of the institution. The bank was capitalized at half a million dollars, but when it closed its doors, during the financial panic of 1907, it had less than ten dollars in the vaults.

Revelations following the bank's failure tended to show, according to the authorities who conducted the investigation, that Rice was a typical "get-rich-quick Wallingford." He is alleged to have started "wild-cat" banks and inaugurated other schemes of finance in Kentucky, Missouri, Illinois and several other states. Efforts to learn his whereabouts after the failure of the Central Bank of Mississippi were for a long time futile. Recently the Mississippi authorities located the former banker at his home in Morehead, Ky., and after successfully fighting a habeas corpus proceeding brought to resist the requisition, returned him to Jackson to await trial on charge of embezzlement and violations of the state banking laws.

Vanderbilt Operation Upon.

New York, Dec. 16.—Cornelius Vanderbilt today underwent an operation for appendicitis at his home here. Dr. Flint issued a bulletin saying the operation was successful. Vanderbilt was stricken first last fall while in Europe.

WOMAN POISONS
WHOLE FAMILY

DOCTOR AND NURSE HELD AS ACCESSORIES.

Michigan Man and Son Poisoned Is Beller Held.

Bad Axe, Mich., Dec. 16.—Suspected of the murder of her husband and three sons by arsenical poisoning, Mrs. John Snarling faces arrest today. Dr. Robert McGregor himself is in jail and Miss Margaret Gibbs of Port Huron, a nurse, is also held, charged with being an accessory after the fact.

Parliament Adjourns.

London, Dec. 16.—Parliament adjourned today after enacting the most important legislation in years. It included the veto bill restricting the power of the house of lords to kill popular measure, and the industrial insurance bill, which is aimed to aid workmen.

WRECK OF THE MAINE.

View From Forward Deck, Showing Progress of Work.



Photo by American Press Association.

GRAHAM, CONRAD ARE ACQUITTED

NEWS WITHHELD FROM AILING MILLIONAIRE.

Miss Graham to Go to Europe With Sister Shortly.

New York, Dec. 16.—Fearing the news of the acquittal of Miss Graham and Miss Conrad accused of shooting the millionaire hotel man, may seriously affect his health, physicians are keeping the information from Stokes who is still critically ill as the result of an operation. Miss Graham goes to Europe soon with her sister. Miss Conrad will not talk. The trial brought forth much racy testimony and reflected on the character of the hotel man.

Stokes says the girls shot him without provocation when they were asked to sign a certain statement.

FORT EXPLOSION DIED.

Fort Riley Investigation Shrouded in Secrecy.

Junction City, Kas., Dec. 16.—Threats of habeas corpus from friends of Private Quirk to obtain the soldiers release unless the charge against him is specifically stated today, is said to have brought about the dynamiting expose at Fort Riley. Every effort is still being made to keep the results of the investigation under cover. Six soldiers are under arrest, accused of the plot to blow up the post. New evidence is said to have been found against Reverend Brewer and Mrs. Anna Jones. Brewer was dismissed as the fort chaplain and it is said he was the instigator of the conspiracy.

Western Governors End Tour.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 16.—Indianapolis was the host today to the western states governors who have been touring the eastern cities. The Hoosier capital was the 22nd city visited by the governors and the stop here brought the regular itinerary to a close. The governors will proceed from here to St. Paul, at which point the party will disband and the executives return to their respective homes. The Indianapolis Commercial club and the Board of Trade joined hands in entertaining the visitors today. A luncheon, an automobile ride and a mass meeting were the chief features of the program. Governor Marshall and Mayor Shank delivered addresses of welcome.

WOOD SAW CUTS HEEL.

Henry Bemer Seriously Hurt by Oliver Woodsaw Yesterday.

While wicking sawdust away from the Oliver Woodsaw while it was at work near Ora Dell, Henry Bemer all but suffered amputation of one foot late yesterday evening. The heel cord was severed and pieces of bone were carried away by the teeth of the saw. He is painfully hurt.

SCHMITZ TRIAL IS SET.

Former Mayor to Be Given Trial in January.

San Francisco, Dec. 16.—The trial of the former mayor, Schmitz, for the trolley bribery cases was set today by Judge Lawler for Jan. 5th.

PORTLAND LADY
TAKES OWN LIFE

WEALTHY PORTLAND DIVORCEE SHOTS HERSELF

CONVERSES WITH LOVER WHILE ACT IS COMMITTED

Says Life Without Chicago Man's Love Useless—Has Relatives in Eastern Oregon and Once Lived in Portland Where Father Now Resides—Is Dying but Tells Police of Reason for Act.

Chicago, Dec. 15.—Telephoning to Frank Cockrell from her room in a hotel here today, Mrs. Edna Robinson, reported as a wealthy divorcee of Portland, Oregon, shot herself while talking to him. She is dying. She told the authorities she did it because life without his (Cockrell's) love was worthless to her.

Known in Eastern Oregon.

Portland, Dec. 16.—Mrs. Robinson is the daughter of James Smith who succeeded to Ross Island a dozen years ago. She has a brother, Bert Smith, a rancher of Eastern Oregon. A sister, Mrs. Clark, the wife of a druggist, lives here. She divorced Harry Robinson, a telegraph operator, five years ago.

SANTA MEAN TO "STREET."

Bosses and Boys on Wall Street Will Get Slim Attention.

New York, Dec. 16.—Wall street employees, from the six-dollar-a-week office boy to the office managers with salaries reaching five figures a year, are not looking forward to Christmas this year with their customary joyful anticipation. It has been a lean year, a very lean year, for the "street," and as a consequence the word has gone out that it will be a pitifully emaciated Santa Claus that will go around distributing the Christmas and end-of-the-year bonuses during the next two weeks. The year has been a poor one for the brokers from the very start and the recent slump was scarcely necessary to add the "glooms" in giving the "joys" the final knockout punch.

The clerical forces of the great stock exchange houses will be the chief sufferers from the falling off in the bonus funds. Scarcely any of the large houses will end the year clear, for they have experienced a big decrease in business and at the same time have been under as heavy expense in maintaining their private wire systems and branch houses as in the "fat" years.

The bank employees probably will fare much better this year than the brokerage forces, though this condition is usually reversed when the stock exchange firms are prosperous. The men back of the big banks are all possessed of great wealth and they argue that it would be poor policy to make their employees suffer for the smaller returns of the past twelve months. Several of the great banking houses make it a rule to give their managers and clerks fifty per cent of their salaries at the end of the year, and ten and even twenty-five per cent distributions are not uncommon. It is not believed, however, that any firm will give 100 per cent bonuses this year, as was done by several houses in 1901.

Infernal Machines Found.

Constantinople, Dec. 16.—Clock work of bombs were found today in the offices of the grand vizier and the war minister. It is believed that followers of the deposed sultan are responsible.

SIX LABOR HEADS
ARE SUSPECTED

INDICTMENTS WILL BE RETURNED AT ONCE.

Lawler Going to Washington to Confer With Pres. Taft.

Los Angeles, Dec. 16.—Prosecutor Lawler will go to Washington when the dynamiting probe is ended here to confer with President Taft and Attorney General Wickersham. It was learned today that six coast labor leaders will probably be indicted here. From Washington he is going to Indianapolis where he will aid the investigation. No session of the local grand jury was held today.

Indianapolis Probe Continues.

Indianapolis, Dec. 16.—Contrary to custom the federal grand jury met today and continued the examination of Mary Dye, John McNamara's former secretary. Additional important testimony bearing on the records taken from the Structural Iron Workers, was obtained.

GRAND CHANCELLOR WRIGHTMAN AND LOU STINSON, PROMINENT IN KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS CIRCLES.



On the left, Frank Wrightman, on the right Lou Stinson, respectively grand chancellor and grand keeper of records and seals of the K. of P. order in Oregon, who visited the Enterprise lodge last evening and will be in Wallowa tonight, coming to La Grande Monday night. The local lodge aims to make the affair Monday night the most important in many years. Two candidates will be initiated into the second rank. Mr. Wrightman is deemed an exceptionally clever speaker and he will be heard during the festivities here.

MERCHANTS
ARM FOR WAR

UNION UP IN ARMS AT PROPOSED ABANDONMENT.

Many Important Issues Await Commission's Decision on Matter.

Business men of Union are holding a meeting this afternoon to determine further steps to be taken in the fight to prevent the abandonment of Union Junction station by the Central railroad of Oregon in the company's effort to create a service between Hot Lake and Union town. On December 16th the railroad commission of Oregon will hand down a formal order in the matter. This decision has been formed between the members of the commission and needs to be put in writing. What it is to be, is not limited, but the business men of Union are confident that they have "doped" the proposition correctly and are arming themselves to prevent final abandonment of the road. Many related issues enter into the conflict. The franchise which the railroad company holds to operate its line in the town of Union is about expired. It is said, and the council will be slow to reissue it unless they know that the junction station is to be maintained. Drays to haul every pound of freight from the junction to Union and automobile stages to care for the passengers are already organized and ready to go to work if the abandonment policy is continued. The issues are going to the supreme court and many important phases are to be settled once and for all.

Chinese Armistice Broken.

Pekin, Dec. 16.—Fighting is progressing in the vicinity of Shih Kai Chwang today as the result of a ruse by the imperialists' commander to prevent his troops from mutinying. The soldiers wanted their pay which the commander lacked. He therefore broke the armistice and set them to fighting to keep them quiet.

SHOPMEN'S PAY
CHECKS CASHED

STRIKEBREAKERS MINGLE WITH BUSINESS MEN.

No Disorders Attend Wholesale Cashing of Pay Checks This Noon.

Several thousand dollars were set in motion here today noon when the strikebreakers employed in the round house cashed their retuned pay checks received this morning. The usual thousands coming to train crews and engine crews were of course cashed here as before, but this is the first time since the strike was called that the strikebreakers have come to the banks without guards and unmolested. During the noon hour today the workmen circulated through the city's business district cashing checks and spending their money freely during the brief one hour. No disturbance transpired although plainclothesmen were on the alert for any semblances of disorder. None was attempted and the men came and went as they pleased.

King Off for Tiger Hunt.

Delhi, Dec. 16.—The king and queen ended their durbar visit to Delhi today when they left the city. The king is off for a two week's hunt for tigers in Nepal. Queen Mary is bound for Agra where she will visit the more important princesses until the king returns on Dec. 20th.

HANCOCK CONTINUES TO IMPROVE.

Reports from attending physicians at 3 o'clock this afternoon convey the information that Conductor Hancock continues to show traces of improvement. The splendid struggle which the injured conductor is making is inspiring hopes for ultimate recovery.



Spencer in Omaha World-Herald.

NO DEFECTS IN
ENGINE VERDICT

RECENT FEDERAL INSPECTIONS POINTED OUT

LACK OF WATER DIRECT CAUSE SAYS THE REPORT

Investigation Fails to Disclose Any Flaw in Engine Which Exploded Near Hilgard—Formal Opinion of Investigators Filed Today—Yearly and Monthly Federal Inspection Cited.

Failure of sufficient water covering the crown sheet of engine No. 382 is held by the O-W. investigators to be responsible for the explosion of that engine near Hilgard when severe human and physical toll was demanded, in a formal report filed by the O-W. investigation committee last night. The fact that the engine had been given three federal inspections since August and the investigators being unable to determine that there were evidences of defects the night of the explosion are pointed out in the detailed report, which follows:

Report of board of inquiry held at La Grande Dec. 15th to investigate the dropping of crown sheet of O-W. R. & N. engine 382 near mile post 295, train 55, about midnight, Dec. 13-14.

We, the undersigned, forming a board of inquiry to investigate the facts leading up to engine 382 dropping crown sheet, find that train 55, engine 507, Engineer J. B. Brown, helper engines 515, Engineer W. R. Parker, and 382, Engineer C. W. Chandler, Conductor Hancock; train consisting of 41 cars, 1500 tons, left La Grande at 10:50 p. m., arrived at Hilgard at 11:20, leaving Hilgard at 11:40 p. m. At a point 2.3 miles west of Hilgard, while ascending a 2.3 grade, helper engine 382 behind cabooses, dropped crown sheet occasion by the lack of water over same, resulting in the death of A. D. McKinley, in charge of three cars of stock, and seriously injuring Conductor B. E. Hancock, brakeman Ed. Perrine and Fireman J. D. Sparks were slightly injured. The committee finds that the cause of death of Mr. McKinley and the injury of Conductor Hancock and brakeman Perrine was due to the force of the escaping steam and water from the boiler, which was forced through the flues, blowing the front end ring and door from the engine, driving them through the cabooses and causing the complete demolition of same. Injury to Fireman Sparks was occasioned by escaping steam through fire door into engine cab. The committee based their findings on the fact that there was no evidence of any weakened or defective condition existing prior to the accident, the locomotive recently having passed through the shops for general overhauling, receiving new fire box, all new crown and side stays. The repairs referred to were completed on Aug. 15th, 1911, at a cost of \$5,073.00. On same date engine received yearly federal boiler inspection, and on Nov. 7th and Dec. 9th, fire box received monthly federal boiler inspection and found in good condition. Estimated damage to locomotive, \$2500. To cabooses, \$800.00.

- A. C. ADAMS, Supt. M. P. S. P. & S. Ry.
- WM. WOLFF, Boilermaker Phoenix Iron Works.
- T. O'BRIEN, Supt. Shops, Twohy Bros. Co.
- S. N. BOLTON, Merchant.
- V. PALMER, Lumberman.
- WILL Y. STODDARD, Supt., Grande Ronde Lumber Co.
- J. F. GRAHAM, Asst. General Manager.
- W. BOLLONS, Superintendent.
- W. R. LADD, Asst. Superintendent.

RUSSIA OBJECT
OF JOINT ATTACK

PERSIA AND TURKEY MAY JOIN FORCES.

Holy War Also Preached by Persian Clericals.

Teheran, Persia, Dec. 16.—Persia and Turkey against Russia is the menace which faces the world through the latest turn of the Persian-Russian embroglio, arising out of the czar's attempt to expel Shuster, an American. Persia is seeking the Turks' aid to expel Russia and officials are conferring today.

It is said that Turkey promises Persia 400,000 troops. To add to the danger the priests are preaching a holy war against Russia.