

## PARCELS POST, LIABILITY ACT AND BETTER CURRENCY SYSTEM FAVORED BY TAFT IN MESSAGE

### URGES OFFICIAL ACTION ON GOVERNMENT OF PANAMA CANAL AND SETS FORTH THE CONDITION OF TREASURY AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS IN JUNE—TREATY WITH RUSSIA IS ABROGATED.

#### ABROGATION NOW COMPLETE.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—President Taft returned this morning from New York and immediately after reaching his office, signed the joint resolution abrogating the Russian treaty, adopted by the senate and house. Secretary of State Knox was present when the resolution was signed.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—President Taft sent a special message to congress today on the financial condition of the treasury, the needed banking and currency reforms and departmental questions. The message said the finances stood at the close of the fiscal year in June as follows: Ordinary receipts, exclusive of postal revenues \$701,372,374; disbursements \$654,137,907.

He urged prompt action on the monetary commission's report, and legislation to govern the Panama canal zone, advocating a government, through the authority of the president, enactment of employers liability act, extension of the postal savings banks and the enactment of a rural parcels post, a law which he says would benefit business and all the people.

The message referred particularly to the monetary reform, declaring the monetary commission's report would be presented to congress in the near future.

Referring to the central bank plan the message says: "It is unfortunate that the wise and undisputed policy of maintaining unchanged the main features of the banking system, rendered it impossible to introduce the 'central' bank, for the central bank would certainly be resisted and the plan in which it could have been introduced probably would have been defeated."

**Officials in Politics Opposed.**  
Referring to the army reorganization bill the president says he favors

#### TO DIE FOR GHASTLY CRIME.

**Four Murderers Doomed to Be Hanged at Chicago Tomorrow.**

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 21.—The first quadruple execution that has taken place in Chicago since the Haymarket anarchists died on the gallows in the late eighties is scheduled to take place tomorrow morning in the Cook county jail yard. The four men, or rather youths, who are destined for death tomorrow by the noose unless an 11th-hour respite is granted are Ewald and

## INSANITY PLEA DEFENSE PLANS

**REV. RICHESON UNABLE TO GO TO TRIAL.**

Defense Will Adopt Insanity Plea for Minister.

Boston, Dec. 21.—Minister Richeson is resting easily today and will probably recover from his attempted suicide. Medical Examiner Leary said he will not be able to go to trial on Jan. 15th as the district attorney asserted.

It is indicated that the minister's plea will be the basis for the defense to plead insanity when the case is brought to trial.

the army service corps and opposed any plan which would interfere in the central principles and detailed system in the staff corps.

Concluding Taft favors the exclusion of the local federal officers of the nation from politics and advocates placing them in classified service.

#### MISS HAWES MARRIED.

Becomes Wife of Tamarack, Idaho, Man Through Quiet Wedding Today

Miss Charlotte Ruth Hawes, daughter of Mrs. Laura Hawes, formerly of Hilgard, but now a resident of Kahlotus, Wn., was married today in the parlors of the Savoy hotel to John Larson of Tamarack, Idaho.

The marriage was witnessed by the bride's mother and Miss Lina Young of Hilgard. Tonight Mr. and Mrs. Larson go to Kahlotus with Mrs. Hawes on a short honeymoon, and then return to Tamarack where they will make their future home. The bride is well known in La Grande, having been born and raised in Hilgard, cultivating intimate friends both there and here. The groom is a well known citizen of his Idaho home town.

Rev. W. S. Seemann officiated. The bride was gowned in blue crepe du chine and was attended by Miss Lena Young. Ray Hawes attended the groom.

## WANT EVIDENCE OF DYNAMITER

**FEDERAL OFFICIALS TRY TO GET McNAMARA STORY.**

Said to Have Approached Him in Penitentiary to Get Evidence.

Indianapolis, Dec. 21.—The assertion has been made that the federal officials have approached John McNamara since his imprisonment and attempted to have him become a state witness in the dynamiting investigations. The report follows the finding of Prosecutor Baker of \$50 for contempt of court because Baker beat a detective employed by the National Erectors' association whom he accused of "harrasing" the members of the grand jury. Judge Markey has ordered the investigation of Baker's charges.

Frank Shilawski, brothers, and Philip Sommerling and Thomas Schultz. The youngest of the quartet is 18 years of age and the oldest is scarcely out of his teens.

The crime for which the four were condemned to death was the brutal murder of a truck farmer named Guelzow on the outskirts of the city early last October. The man was driving a wagon full of garden produce when the boys set on him for the purpose of robbery. The boys were armed with a club, knife, revolver and hammer. When the victim alighted from his wagon he was struck down with a club. He pleaded for his life on his knees, offering the boys all his possessions, because he had a wife and baby a month old at home, but the answer of the youths was to beat him into unconsciousness.

Three of the boys were arrested a few hours later while they were trying to sell the farmer's team to a horse trader. At that time the police did not know there has been a murder committed, having arrested the boys as horse thieves, but the prisoners confessed and implicated the other defendants. Two other boys, aged 16 years each, were implicated in the murder, but on account of their youth the two escaped the death sentence and are now serving life terms in prison.

#### BENTON C. DECKER.

Commanding Scout Cruiser Chester, Ordered to Tripoli.



## ROB PORTLAND POST OFFICE

**STATION A RELIEVED OF MANY MANY VALUABLES.**

Safe Crackers Make Rich Haul During the Night.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 21.—Postoffice station A, on the east side, was broken into and robbed of \$1,000 cash and \$500 in stamps, and some registered mail during the night. Safe crackers knocked the combination off the safe. People rooming above the postoffice heard it but believed the employees were sorting Christmas mail. There are no clues.

#### Accident Is Fatal.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 21.—Frank Kelly, of Mission, Mo., where his wife and children live, is dying today and Policeman Charles Hewerson is seriously wounded in the groin. Early today they met near Kelly's room on Hill street and each mistook the other for a highwayman and emptied their revolvers. For a time the police believed that Kelly was the famed red haired bandit of Tacoma but soon found that he was working here in a trusted position which he had held for five months.

#### FIELDER JONES PRESIDENT.

Northwestern League Will Be Managed by Ex-White Sox Star.

Seattle, Dec. 21.—Fielder Jones, the old Chicago White Sox leader, will be elected president of the Northwestern league this afternoon at the directors' meeting.

The application of Walla Walla for a franchise will be reported unfavorably at the Seattle meeting.

## YUAN CONCEDES WITH STRINGS

**REBELS DEMANDS SATISFY WITH CERTAIN CONDITIONS.**

WU TING FANG SLOW TO ACCEPT MANCHU CONCESSION

While Admitting Yuan Would Be Elected President, the Rebels Will Not Allow Any Strings to Be Tied to Concessions—Abdication Only Manner of Settling Disputes.

Shanghai, Dec. 21.—Premier Yuan was willing today to concede the rebels' demands for a republican form of government, provided he was selected as the first president, but Wu Ting Fang refused to accept the recognition of the republic on these terms and says if the premier concedes the republic Yuan will be nominated and is almost certain to be elected.

#### Abdication Only Solution.

Declaring that the application of the Chinese emperor and the establishment of a republic is the only means by which the Chinese may be appeased, Tang Shao Yi, representing Premier Yuan at the peace conference, said:

"Pekin is unaware of the depth of popular feeling. Although somewhat prepared, I was astonished to find such a change in the attitude of patient forbearance to dogged patriotic determination. It appears too late to save the empire."

#### Congressional Recess Begins.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—Both houses of congress adjourned today for the customary holiday recess. Some of the members living in nearby states will return home to spend Christmas but the big majority of the senators and representatives will remain in the capital. Of late years the holiday season has become a period of great social brilliance in Washington and as a consequence very few of those prominent in public life say nothing of their wives and daughters, care to leave the city at this time. Then, too, the abolition of railway passes has been a potent influence in changing the old habit of the members of congress in making frequent trips to and from their homes.

#### Strikebreakers in Fight.

Dunkirk, Dec. 21.—Three detectives and one strikebreaker and three striker sympathizers were hurt in the Lake Shore railway station today when 1,400 striking American Locomotive boiler-makers and friends waged a battle for the possession of six strikebreakers. The detectives and the men escaped, the detectives finally firing into the crowd.

#### President and Czar Cordial.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—President Taft cabled his good wishes to the czar of Russia today the occasion being Nicholas day in Russia. The czar replied cordially.

#### JULIAN THORNE.

Whose Mining Interests Are Under Investigation.



## BLIZZARD AND SNOW PREVAIL

**MIDDLE WEST AND MOUNTAINS SNOW COVERED.**

Stock Suffers—Drop in Temperature in La Grande Marked.

Denver, Dec. 21.—The middle west and mountains are now covered, and a heavy live stock loss is reported in some districts owing to a blizzard in like proportions to the storm just passed. Zero weather prevailed.

## U. OF O. WINS FIRST ROUND

**CIRCUIT COURT HOLDS REFERENDUM VOID.**

Case Will Be Carried to the Supreme Court by Petition's Friends.

Salem, Dec. 21.—The University of Oregon won its fight for the appropriation today when Judge Galloway made permanent the temporary injunction enjoining the secretary of state from filing the referendum petition against the appropriations. The judge held many names on the petition were fraudulent and not sufficient were genuine to comply with the law. The decision will be appealed.

#### TEN DEGREES RECORD

Mercury Here Sinks to Low Point Last Night

The mercury took a drop last night and came within one degree of tying the record for the winter. Ten degrees above zero was the record shown by the government thermometer, reported by W. A. Westell this morning.

About one month ago a cold snap saw a drop to nine degrees above zero.

#### GAME PROMISES INTEREST.

Many Former Stars of High School Here to Participate Tonight.

When the high school five rubs shoulders with the alumni tonight at the gymnasium, a snappy game is very probable for among the alumni home for the holidays and among those who are here, can be picked a first class team. Charles Reynolds, Henry Heidenrich, Joe and Lowell Williamson and several others, including Earls and Carpy, are "grads" who are entitled to represent the has-been school stars. Ralston, Lottes, Lee Reynolds, Roberts, Bolton, Kall, Bohnenkamp and Woods and several others will be lined up to pick from for the high school. The game commences at 8 o'clock and the admission is to be less than customary.

## TRIPLE EVENTS MOMENTUOUS

**EMPEROR JOSEF IS DYING AND FIGHTING HAS BROKEN OUT**

**TRIPLE ALLIANCE TO BE SUBSTITUTED FOR SHORTLY**

News From Vienna Is Carefully Censored as Newspapers Telling Pessimistic Facts of the Emperor's Condition Are Burned—Believed He Has But a Few Days to Live In.

#### TRIPLE OCCURRENCES IN THE EAST.

London, Dec. 31.—Three momentous events are transpiring today—King Franz Josef is dying, Russia and Persia are locking horns over the Shuster affair and a new entente may grow out of a movement set on foot today which is to substitute the triple alliance.

London, Dec. 21.—Emperor Franz Josef of Austria-Hungary is reported to be dying. The end is expected momentarily, as he suffered a relapse during the night.

**Vienna Predicts End.**  
Vienna, Dec. 21.—Although officially reported as improbable, it is believed that the Emperor Franz Josef has only a few days to live.

The police this afternoon seized and burned all the newspaper editions that published pessimistic stories of the emperor's condition.

**Persia and Russia Fighting.**  
Teheran, Dec. 21.—Tahriz dispatches state that serious fighting is progressing between the Russian and Persian troops there.

Kasbin report say 4,000 Russian troops are ordered to move on Teheran tomorrow unless the Persian parliament agrees to dismiss Shuster.

**Would Form New Entente.**  
Paris, Dec. 21.—Ambassador Barrere, of France, stationed at Rome, has made tentative proposals to Italy to abandon Austria-Germany at the expiration of the triple alliance and join a triple entente to form a quadruple entente with France, England and Russia. This statement was made here today. It is believed to have originated in Vienna. It is added that Italy has lent a sympathetic ear to the proposal.

**No Delay in Trial.**

Chicago, Dec. 21.—Judge Carpenter today made it certain that the beef barons' trial will proceed when he denied a motion of defense that two of the seven counts of the indictment be dismissed. The defense took an exception to the ruling.

**King Kills Game.**

Delhi, Dec. 21.—Three tigers, and three rhinoceros have been killed by the king and his hunting party in Nepal, so far.

## GOVERNOR IN PRISON 2 DAYS

**GOV. HOOPER WILL STUDY PRISON METHODS.**

Eats, Sleeps and Works With their Inmates of the Prison.

Nashville, Dec. 21.—Sentencing himself to two days' imprisonment in the penitentiary for the purpose of studying at first hand the prison conditions, Governor Hooper today arose with convicts from his cell, performed abutions in a tin pail, accompanied the convicts to the dining room and then worked.

His predecessor, Patterson, was accused of pardoning convicts too freely and Hooper promised to be more careful. He is treated as any prisoner.

### CAN HE UNSCRAMBLE SCRAMBLED EGGS?



—Triggs in New York Press.