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BURLESON WILL MAKE PLANS TO CONTROL WIRES

ALL METHODS OF COMMUNICATION SHOULD BE OWNED BY GOVERNMENT.

DOUBT FITNESS OF TIME

Monopolistic Control of Wires Makes It Necessary That All Lines Be Owned by Unselfish Government.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The bill drawn by Senator Lewis of Illinois, providing for the government ownership of telephone and telegraph lines, did not meet with the entire approval of the Wilson administration. This was made certain when the house leaders admitted that they contemplated introducing at this session of congress a bill providing for the ownership by the federal government of all telephone and telegraph lines, framed at the suggestion and instance of Postmaster-General Burleson and his assistants. It was announced by the framers of the bill that it would be withheld, and allow the administration measure to be introduced, providing it meets with the approval of the Democratic caucus.

It is considered certain that the president favors government ownership of telephone and telegraph lines, but there is doubt regarding the wisdom of the move at this specific time.

Discussing this matter, the postmaster-general says:

"A study of the constitutional purposes of the postal establishment leads to the conviction that the post-office department should have control over all means of the communication of intelligence. The first telegraph line in this country was maintained and operated as a part of the postal service, and it is to be regretted that congress saw fit to relinquish this facility to private enterprise. The monopolistic nature of the telegraph business makes it of vital importance to the people that it be conducted by unselfish interests, and this can be accomplished only through government ownership."

SCHOONER SAID TO BE ON REEF

Indians Send in Message Concerning Straits of Masted Vessel.

Aberdeen, Wash., Dec. 18.—An unidentified three-masted schooner may have gone ashore between Point Elizabeth and Raft River, 50 miles north of here. This is in accord with a report that was brought here by Indians from that section. The Indians stated that on Tuesday the schooner was sailing so close to the shore that it could not avoid running on the reefs.

HORSE SENSE IS ENOUGH.

Governor Thinks Sound Reasoning Will Obviate Special Session.

Salem, Dec. 18.—There will be no special session of the legislature to fix up the registration laws. The governor made this plain when he declared a little horse sense would straighten any supposed tangle or confusion in the election laws. He spoke of the matter in a humorous vein.

County Treasurer Is Ill.

County Treasurer John Frawley is ill and will not be at his office for a number of days. The illness is not serious, but is of a nature sufficient to keep him indoors.

Operation Is Successful.

Mrs. L. E. Anderson, who was recently operated on at the home of her sister, Mrs. S. E. Miller, of Union is recovering rapidly.

Ultimatum For State Governor

UNIONISTS GIVE EXECUTIVE FIVE DAYS TO DECIDE.

RECALL THREATENED

General Strike Will Be Called in All of Colorado State.

Denver, Dec. 18.—Five hundred unionists marched on the state house this morning to deliver to Governor Ammons, an ultimatum in connection with the Colorado coal field strike. Among the things demanded by the miners was the recall of the militia from the strike-bound district. Removal of Adjutant General Chase, Judge Advocate Boughton and other high officials of the national guard. They finally insisted that the strikers now held as military prisoners by the military authorities be turned over to the civil authorities for trial in the civil courts. They gave the governor five days in which to make up his mind whether or not he will comply with the demands of the strikers. If he fails to do as they requested they will immediately start a petition recalling him.

This new phase of the strike has come unexpectedly and the governor heard the strikers with much concern. It is predicted that some sort of compromise will be effected by which the miners will relent from their urgent demands. The governor is worried, but owing to his stern tactics heretofore it is thought likely that he will concede less than asked for.

Governor Refuses Demands.

A later telegram on the situation states that the governor refused the demands of the unionist delegates in behalf of the striking miners. If he sticks to his decision the message continues, it is understood that a general strike will be called, and the threatened petition to recall the governor will be put in circulation at once. At the expiration of the time limit in the ultimatum the miners will begin both the strike and the circulation of the petition.

CURRENCY BILL IS RAILROADED

TIME LIMIT OF SPEECHES SET BY SENATORS.

Democrats Will Use Usual Method of Gaining Consent of Members.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The currency bill is being "railroaded" through the senate. A rule was voted whereby speeches shall not be of a longer duration than 15 minutes. A caucus is scheduled for tonight at which several proposed amendments will be discussed. It is the hope of the majority party to have the last roll call on the currency measure tomorrow at which time it is thought the measure will finally pass the senate. A conference of the joint committee of the house and senate will then settle differences.

OSHOUNGNESSY DENIES RUMOR

No Demand to Retire Given Huerta as Reported by the Papers.

Mexico, Dec. 18.—Oshoughnessy, foreign minister of the United States, joined in characterizing as another lie, the story telegraphed to American papers in which it is stated that he had handed Huerta a modified demand for the latter's retirement.

It is known that Oshoughnessy does nothing not approved by the state department and this new fabrication is given the name it rightly deserves.

The secretary of state has been guarding all information of late and is much peeved at the rumors which the press of the country is spreading, all of which make diplomatic relations difficult.

NEW REBELLION IN MEXICO THREATENS TO COME AS THE RESULT OF MERCADO'S FALL

Latest Developments Shake Nation And Worry Huerta--Washington Puzzled

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 18.—A new rebellion has commenced in Mexico. Generals Orozco and Salazar are said to be its active leaders, but associated with them is Felix Diaz, nephew of Porfirio Diaz. Emilio Vasco Gomez, one of the leaders with Zapata is said to be willing to join them; this is latest developments resulting from the break between Orozco and Salazar and General Mercado at Ojinaga yesterday. Mercado remained loyal to Huerta, but Orozco and Salazar determined to act independently of anyone. Being in the minority now Mercado, who lost his command, may lose his life.

All Mexico is stirred over these latest developments and Huerta is said to be very uneasy. The situation has become so grave that non-residents fear to leave the country. No one knows just who is fighting nor for what purpose.

With the former rebel army in the vicinity of Tampico, which they strove to take by storm three days ago and which the federals defended with great loss of life, and this new army of rebellionists with no very definite aim as yet save only the one that they refuse to fight for Huerta, things in strife-ridden Mexico never looked worse. Mercado is now in danger of losing his life. It is thought he will either join the army of Villa and Carranza or flee to the United States and let the new rebellion will intervene.

Thaw In His Lawyer's Office Planning Federal Court Fight

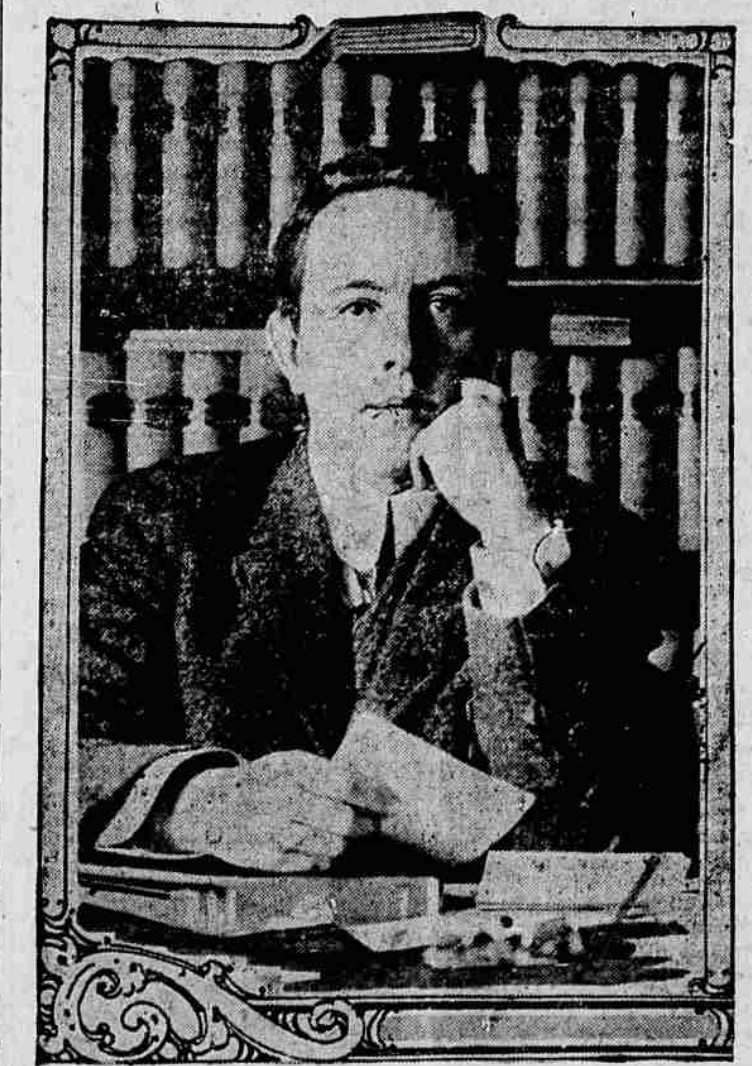


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Concord, N. H., Dec. 18.—Thaw is speaking of the matter the judge said to be examined again to test his sanity. The commission is not appointed for the purpose of listening to experts on an advisory hearing, but for

CHRISTMAS NUMBER WILL BE RICH IN MATERIAL, ARTISTIC IN MAKE-UP.

The special Christmas edition of the La Grande Evening Observer will be the best ever. At first we stated that we would print 20 pages, but the special articles have increased to such an extent that we must add more pages. It is to be the biggest paper ever printed in La Grande and will tell in a fitting manner about the progress of this community. The industrial edition will be model in its make-up and contents. Stories about the death rate, birth rate and other vital statistics of the county will be in this big feature number.

It will contain the history of the first permanent settlement in the Grande Ronde valley. Data for this brief sketch was furnished by John Baker, now 71 years of age and one of the members of the train that started from Corydon, Iowa in 1861.

This story will get into print some of the earliest bits of information concerning this courageous undertaking by settlers for new homes. The story is well written and should be saved. Owing to the demand for these copies you will favor the Observer by sending in your order. Ten cents will cover cost and mailing by this office to any part of the United States. The Observer suggests that you save each of these annual copies for comparison.

NO EMERGENCY FUND CREATED

BOARD VOTE IS FIVE TO ONE AGAINST MEASURE.

Special Session Urged, But Governor Will Rely on Other Measures.

Salem, Dec. 18.—The emergency board of the state refused to authorize a deficiency of \$50,000 to enable the state highway department to give immediate employment to jobless men. The board turned down the governor's request for funds to relieve the present condition throughout the state, by a vote of five to one. Members voting against the deficiency did so, they declared, on legal grounds, and held that the board had no power to act in the premises. Three members of this board urged the governor to call a special session of the legislature, giving the governor the assurance that they would work for the appropriation on the board appointed to look into the matter.

The governor indicated that he would adopt other measures to relieve the situation. Two days ago he requested the secretary of the interior to rush the work on the west Umatilla irrigation project for the purpose of giving employment to the army of men in the larger cities of the state who are out of work. The city of Portland also introduced a measure to have most of the street work performed in the winter months when work of other kinds is scarce. As all of these plans involve more or less bandying of machinery and office work, Relief is not in sight.

No Special Session.

Later information from the governor's office is to the effect that there will be no special session of the legislature.

making such observations and examinations as it sees fit to make as to Thaw's present condition, and, whether he is insane or not, its opinion is sought on the single and sole question whether it is reasonably probable that his liberty under bail would be dangerous to the public peace and safety."

SNOW MUST BE SHOVELED OFF ALL SIDEWALKS

CITY ENGINEER HAS PUT IT UP TO POLICE DEPARTMENT; SHOVEL OR PAY FINE.

COMMISSIONERS GET BILLS

Manager Lasky Requests Leave of Absence to Put His Own Affairs in Order Before Returning to City—Had Busy Week.

Disagreeable winter slush which has heretofore covered the sidewalks La Grande it to be no more. That is the edict that went forth from the office of Street Commissioner R. R. Neal this morning. In explaining the action Mr. Neal stated that he was only enforcing an ordinance which states that no persons may allow snow to remain on the sidewalks for more than six hours after falling, under penalty of from \$5 to \$25 fine. A list of blocks and lots where snow covered the walks this morning was taken and appears here. Chief of Police Howard Avant gives this notice before taking action in the cases cited, but stated that the ordinance must be promptly complied with or trouble will follow.

Blocks 105, 106, 107, 112, 113, 114, 115, and lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, in block 108, and lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, in block 11 and lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, in block 116 and lots 1 to 14 in block 117, all in Chaplin's addition.

One of the knotty problems for the city management is the paying off of some bills left over from the old regime. A bill presented by the Warren Construction company for work performed on the Second street subway is one of the thorns pricking the manager. The work was to have been done and no doubt was done at cost, plus 10 per cent to cover superintendence. But the margin of the bill bears the disapproval of Fred Halsten, then a councilman. Just how the matter will be disposed of has not yet been determined by the city's management.

Most of the evening was consumed in passing on these bills and others that have accrued since the new officials went into office.

The manager urged particular haste in the floating of a bond issue for the purpose of putting the city on a cash basis. He estimates in his report that approximately \$75,000 will be needed for this purpose.

It is purely a matter of economy as it will enable the manager to purchase supplies at a lower figure for cash than he can at the present time.

John Jordan was granted a license to conduct a saloon on Fir street at his former stand. The bonds of those who had been granted licenses at the previous meeting of the commission were accepted and referred to the legal department of which John Hodgins is the head.

The commissioners also passed an ordinance allowing themselves \$5.00 for each meeting. There is no provision for pay at meetings other than regular weekly meetings. A resolution providing for a sewer district on Grandy avenue, between Fourth and Cedar was adopted. A petition for a cement sidewalk on the south side of N avenue between Fourth and Cedar was referred to the engineering department.

Bonds of City Treasurer N. J. Mansager, Recorder Lee Warnick and Water Superintendent L. M. Hoyt

(Continued on Page Eight.)