

# BROUGHT TO TERMS

## Corporations Lose in Struggle to Rule San Francisco.

### MUST PAY WELL FOR PRIVILEGES

#### Board of Supervisors Exacts Reduction on Gas and Telephones and Rent for Trolley Franchises.

San Francisco, June 16.—The annual struggle between the city and the corporations has just come to an end, with an unexpected victory for the municipality. The members of the board of supervisors, who represent the city in the negotiations with the corporations, are for the most part business men and lawyers. It was thought that their sympathies would run naturally to the vested interests and that the local service companies, which suffered heavily in the earthquake and fire, would take advantage of the situation and make up for the public what they lost in the fire. That is exactly what the corporations tried to do. They said so openly, and argued their right to do so, but a majority of the board stood firm for the taxpayers, and the city witnessed a most encouraging example of competent government.

Pressure from every possible avenue was brought to bear on the supervisors to force them to yield to the demands of all the service companies for higher rates. The gas company wanted an increased rate, the water company threatened famine unless it should receive a 15 per cent advance in rates, the telephone company resisted to the utmost, and the street railroad company ran cars without permits, seized franchises and attempted to bottle up the traffic privileges on Market street, when the supervisors stepped in and completely blocked the game.

The gas company asked for an increase from 85-cent to \$1 gas. The board conducted an inquiry. The gas company promised to turn its books over to the supervisors for inspection. This, it afterward appeared, was a bluff, for when the supervisors asked for the records, the company refused to produce them until practically compelled to do so. It was then discovered that improper charges had been made in figuring the cost of operation. The mask was pulled aside by the "business" board and the gas company got an 85-cent rate.

An investigation into telephone rates resulted in a general reduction of from 15 to 25 per cent. The water rate was placed at the same figure as last year, with a slight increase in the allowance for hydrants. The trolley franchises which the United Railroads attempted to appropriate were withheld.

### PROSECUTE ENGLISHMAN

#### Editor of Paper in Seoul Is Charged With Sedition.

Seoul, June 16.—Y. Mimura, the Japanese resident governor of Seoul, appeared as the prosecutor of E. T. Bethel, a British subject, who was today arraigned in a British court appointed under order of the privy council. He is charged with spreading sedition by the medium of a newspaper published in the Korean vernacular, and of which he is the proprietor. The court includes Judge F. St. Bourne and Prosecuting Attorney W. Wilkinson, both of whom were specially sent from Shanghai by the British government at the suggestion of Ambassador McDonald at Tokio.

The prosecution said that it would prove that the publications in Bethel's vernacular newspaper was largely responsible for all the disturbances in Korea. M. Mimura asserted that the Korean government exists only subject to the direction of Japan. He further said he believed there were 20,000 troops now in Korea, and that half of the country was disturbed. Consequently the publications were creating a false impression regarding the real intention of the Japanese government, increasing the difficulties of the government and causing much bloodshed.

C. M. Cross, a lawyer of Kobe, who is defending Bethel, asked for a jury trial, which Judge St. Bourne refused.

### Runaway Auto Kills Four.

New York, June 16.—Four persons were drowned tonight when an automobile carrying a pleasure party of six became unmanageable, shot at a wild speed down West Fifty-sixth street and bounded from an open pier into the North river. The machine turned over in its plunge from the pier, holding the four victims fast in their seats. John Bailor, the chauffeur, was carried into the river with the machine, but managed to free himself and swim to safety.

### Pigeon Makes Long Flight.

Tacoma, Wash., June 16.—After being on the wing since the 17th day of last month, one of the carrier pigeons sent out from this city on the steamer Tremont, on the 15th of May, to be liberated at Cape Flattery, returned to its roost in this city Saturday evening. When the steamer Tremont left this port it carried fourteen pigeons. The bird that came back Saturday was one of Mr. Brechtel's, and it brought with it a message dated Cape Beale, which is 200 miles out at sea. One of the pigeons returned home a week ago.

### Cuban Patriots Amuse Taft.

Washington, June 16.—Secretary Taft laughed today when he was told of a further report of preparations of revolutionary uprisings in Cuba based on the proposed withdrawal of American troops on or before next Friday.

### TWO BIG FLEETS.

#### Admiral Evans Wants 24 Vessels on Each Coast.

New York, June 12.—Rear-Admiral Robley D. Evans, who left for Lake Mohonk yesterday to spend the summer, said much of the criticism of the American navy was unwarranted. "Americans can go to sleep every night satisfied that, ship for ship, they have a navy able to hold its own against vessels of equal age," said he. "But we must have more ships if we want to keep on the safe side."

Asked his opinion as to the most formidable battleship, the admiral said: "The ship that is to carry the battery that will win a fight must not be less than 25,000 tons. The 20,000-ton battleship is not big enough."

"Are you still in favor of a greater fleet?" he was asked. "Indeed, I am," he replied. "We want 24 battleships on each coast."

### KAISER IS DISPLEASED.

#### Regards Anglo-Russo-French Entente as Threat of War.

St. Petersburg, June 12.—It was learned here yesterday from a competent source that the recent meeting between King Edward and Emperor Nicholas at Reval and the rapprochement between Great Britain, Russia and France has been made the subject of grave representations on the part of Germany, who has met the threatened birth of a new "triple alliance" with a display of the "mailed fist."

After the announcement of the Reval meeting, Russia was given to understand at Berlin that the conclusion of a formal entente among these three powers would be regarded as a measure hostile in tendency or, to quote the exact term used by the informant of the Associated Press, was a "Krisgedrohnd."

Whether such a development was originally contemplated from the meetings between King Edward and the president of France and King Edward and the emperor of Russia is not stated, but the immediate result of the representations made in Berlin was the publication of an obviously inspired article in the official *Rossia*, which speaks warmly of the meeting between King Edward and Emperor Nicholas, but declares that the suggestion of new grouping of the powers at the present time was impossible.

### BIG WHEAT CROP.

#### Rain Fell at Right Time for Farmers of Northwest.

Portland, June 12.—It is estimated by the traffic department of the O. R. & N. Co., from reports received throughout the inland empire, that the condition of the wheat crop at this time is even better than it was last year at the same period, and that there is every indication of a bumper crop of wheat in the grain areas of Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

In nearly every section of the interior country there have been rains at times when they would do the most good to the wheat crop. Sherman county prospects are excellent and Gilliam county is in good condition. The Morrow county crop is generally favorable, but rain is needed in the northern portion. A late cool spring is said to have had unfavorable results in the valley of the Powder river, but there will be some grain and hay. In the Grand Ronde valley, the Palouse country and around Walla Walla conditions are excellent. So far as heard Central Oregon will come to the front this year with good grain crops. The Crook county region gives favorable indications, and in higher altitudes where the late spring has held back crops the hot summer days are expected to bring everything forward rapidly from this date. It is believed Oregon will this year produce one of its greatest wheat crops in the history of the state.

### Czar Hits Russian Officials.

St. Petersburg, June 15.—A decree of the czar's, sentencing the governor and vice-governor of Astrakhan prison to eight years penal servitude in the mines of Siberia, has struck terror into the ranks of the Russian officialdom, for the two men had done nothing beyond torturing a few prisoners, some of whom unfortunately had the bad taste to die, and to torture prisoners has hitherto never been considered a crime in Russia.

### Submarine Builder Invents Airship.

New York, June 12.—Plans of the new style airship, invented by Simon Lake, the submarine boat builder, were made public yesterday, together with the information that preparations for the building of the ship were already fairly under way. The airship is to be constructed by one of the best-known students of aerial navigation. The new ship is to be a combination of aeroplane, dirigible balloon and helicopter.

### Kansas Flood Falls Fast.

Kansas City, June 12.—The Kaw and Missouri flood, which has been exceeded in height only twice since the country was settled, is falling more rapidly than it rose. Owing to the Missouri's permitting free outlet from the gorged Kaw, the financial loss has been small, and within a week scarcely a trace of the inundation will remain.

### Ancient Tower Totters.

Venice, June 12.—The campanile of Santo Stefano Church, a Gothic structure of the 14th century, which contains the tomb of the Doge Francesco Morosini, threatens to fall like the campanile of St. Mark's, which collapsed in 1902. The question of demolishing it is under consideration.

### Form New Steel Trust.

London, June 12.—According to the Iron and Steel Trades Journal, there has recently been effected a great combination in the British steel trade, with a capital of \$375,000,000.

# NEWS ITEMS FROM WASHINGTON, D. C.

### LET VICE PRESIDENCY ALONE.

#### Taft Will Have Nothing to Say About It Until Nominated.

Washington, June 18.—This statement was issued from an authoritative source yesterday: "An exchange of telegrams over night between Washington and Chicago indicates that there will be no developments, so far as the administration is concerned, in the matter of selecting a candidate for vice-president here until after the platform shall have been disposed of and a nominee for the presidency shall have been named."

It is understood that the above statement was issued with the distinct purpose of avoiding complication of the vice-presidency with the presidential nomination.

Reflection over night has only strengthened the determination of the war secretary to insist upon the inclusion in the Republican party platform of the anti-injunction plank on the lines of that telegraphed last night.

Therefore, a long telegram went forward from the war department yesterday to Frank Hitchcock, Mr. Taft's Chicago manager, instructing him to insist upon the anti-injunction plank.

### MALEVITCH'S VIEWS APPROVED.

#### New Russian Ambassador to Tokio Developing Peaceful Relations.

Washington, June 13.—The administration officials unofficially have been made acquainted with the essential features of an important interview recently had by the representatives of a Moscow newspaper with Mr. Malevitch, recently appointed Russian ambassador to Tokio, which touches upon Russia's policy in the far east. The views expressed by the ambassador, it is said, meet with the hearty approval of the Russian foreign office. The tenor of Malevitch's observations are pleasing also to the administration, and to the diplomatic corps here, as it indicates a desire and intention on the part of the Russian government to develop the peaceful relations established with Japan. The Russian ambassador took the view that with the conclusion of the treaty of commerce the fisheries convention entered into between Russia and Japan during the past year, the peaceful aims of the policy of Russia with regard to Japan have definitely been established.

### Crops Worth Eight Million.

Washington, June 16.—Crops of 1908 will be worth nearly \$8,000,000,000, according to figures prepared by the department of agriculture. It is expected there will be sufficient funds to move the crops from the farms to tide-water.

In discussing the outlook today, Chief Statistician Clark of the agricultural department, said: "Indications at the present time are for great crops. For eight years the American farmer has enjoyed unprecedented prosperity and now the ninth promising harvest is practically assured. Never in the history of the United States have there been nine such years of big yields and high prices."

### Hyde-Benson Case Nears End.

Washington, June 12.—The defense in the Hyde-Benson land fraud cases announced yesterday that it had completed its case except the testimony of handwriting experts. It is expected that the case will go to the jury one week from today. Several character witnesses from San Francisco testified for Dimond. Schneider took the stand and testified that with Attorney Zubriske, who is now dead, he had an interview with Agent Holsinger of the general land office at Tucson, Ariz., and at that time Schneider said he stated the part he had played in securing Oregon land titles for Hyde. Schneider gave the details of several interviews with Holsinger and told of meeting Dimond when he was sent east by Hyde.

### Preparing New Currency.

Washington, June 16.—The department of engraving and printing started to turn out the new notes authorized by the currency act of the last congress. The notes are similar to the old United States bank notes with one exception. Where the inscription "secured by bonds of the United States," appears on the old notes, the following legend appears on the new: "Secured by bonds of the United States and other securities."

The controller of the currency estimates that the new issue will be ready for distribution by July 1.

### "Peaceful Bob" Evans.

Washington, June 13.—Rear-Admiral Robley D. Evans has gone to his summer home at Lake Mohonk, N. Y., where he says he is going to play the part of "peaceful Bob" with the kids and the toy boats on the lake. The ranking rear-admiral of the navy has had much attention since his arrival here from San Francisco after taking the Atlantic fleet around the Horn, and he went away in high good humor.

### Panama Given Warning.

Washington, June 13.—In language that cannot be mistaken, the president and Secretary Taft have notified the Panama government that elections in that republic must be conducted fairly. The circumstances attending this warning were given out for publication as if in preparation for active intervention on the part of the United States by the use of whatever force shall be necessary.

### Metcalf Goes Home.

Washington, June 17.—Secretary Metcalf called on the President today prior to leaving for his home in California. He will leave Washington late this evening, and will not stop at Chicago for the convention. He said that he was not and would not be a candidate for the senatorship or for any other office.

### KAISER GREETES AMBASSADOR.

#### American Cordially Received at German Court.

Berlin, June 17.—The emperor today received in audience the new American ambassador to Germany, David Jayne Hill, who succeeded Charlemagne Tower. The audience was fixed several days before Dr. Hill anticipated it, but the emperor's greeting was none the less hearty.

The emperor's master of ceremonies, Baron von de Knesbeck, called at the hotel yesterday where Dr. Hill was stopping, and informed him that an audience with the emperor had been granted for today in the old palace, his majesty coming in from Potsdam for the purpose. Three court carriages called for Dr. Hill today, and accompanied by his staff, he proceeded to the palace. On his arrival there he received a message from the emperor that the presentation would take place in the garden which recently was planted in one of the palace courts.

### TEST CRUISERS.

#### Maryland and West Virginia Make a Good Showing.

Washington, June 17.—Rear Admiral Dayton today reported that the armored cruiser Maryland on a four-hour full speed, forced draught trial off the California coast, averaged 133.1 revolutions of her engines per minute, and the armored cruiser West Virginia, under similar conditions, averaged 131.8 revolutions. The average speed obtained with a slight adverse current was 22.25 and 22.1 knots respectively.

The revolutions may exceed those of the records of the contractors' trials, and opinions of the naval officials speak well for the work on the machinery of the vessels, which have been now in commission for three years.

### LIBERIA ASKS FOR HELP.

#### Black Republic Says France and Britain Encroach on Territory.

Washington, June 12.—Booker T. Washington called on the President Wednesday and arranged for a conference between the President and Secretary Taft and J. J. Densen, vice-president of Liberia; G. W. Gibson, ex-president of the republic; James Dunbar, a lawyer of Liberia, and Mr. Washington.

Mr. Washington declined to discuss the subject of his interview, but it was learned that the representatives of Liberia assert that England and France have encroached upon their domain and they wish the moral, if not the active, support of the United States to maintain the integrity of their territory.

### Appoints Board to Inspect Ships.

Washington, June 12.—Secretary of the Navy Metcalf has announced the designation of the following board of naval officers to inspect the ships, Shawmut and Tremont, which are to be purchased by the Isthmian canal commission to be used for transportation of supplies from the United States to Panama. Captain Charles T. Perkins, Commander Stacy Potts, Naval Constructor John D. Beuret, Lieutenant-Commander Oscar W. Koestner and Lieutenant Earl T. Jessop. The ships are in Pacific waters.

### Repaint Letter Boxes.

Word has reached Portland from the postoffice department at Washington, that all street letter boxes in all cities of the United States are to be painted a bright scarlet. The principal reason assigned for the use of the bright and attractive color is that these mail deposit boxes may be discerned more readily. These boxes are now painted in an aluminum color and are not easily located in the streets by many persons desiring to deposit letters.

### Opium Commissioners.

Washington, June 18.—President Roosevelt has appointed three commissioners to represent the United States on the international commission to investigate the opium question in the Far East. They are: Thomas Burke, attorney of Seattle; Dr. Hamilton Wright, of Maine, and Dr. Charles Tenney, Chinese secretary of the American legation at Peking.

### Dalzell Calls on President.

Washington, June 13.—Representative Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, who has been named by the president to serve on a commission for the conservation of the natural resources of the country, called on the president Thursday. Mr. Dalzell will serve on the sub-commission on mineral resources.

### Georgia Wins Coaling Record.

Washington, June 18.—A report received at the navy department states that the battleship Georgia has made the world's coaling record, taking on board 1,779 tons of coal in five hours and twelve minutes. In the best hour 458 tons were taken on board. The ship is on the Pacific Coast.

### Dayton to Remain.

Washington, June 12.—Although Admiral Dayton will not retire as commanding officer of the Pacific fleet until October, he will give place to Admiral Swinburne, who has been selected to succeed him on August 1. Admiral Swinburne will retire in two years.

### Lumber Cases Decided.

Washington, June 18.—The decision of the interstate commerce commission in the Pacific Coast lumber rate cases will probably be announced the latter part of this week. The decisions have been written and are only awaiting final review and approval before being made public.

### GERMANY HAS GRAFT.

#### Astounding State of Corruption Discovered in Navy Yards.

Berlin, June 15.—How many millions has the German government been swindled out of by the recently discovered embezzlements in the imperial shipyards at Kiel? No one dares even guess. How many of the vessels built and equipped in the yards are to be found to belong to the same class as the battleships built in Russia, with wooden pipes instead of steel rivets? No one knows yet, and no one probably ever will.

The discovery that two high officials of the imperial shipyards, and possibly a number of others, have systematically been robbing the government for years has come as a terrible shock to the German people, who are proud of the proverbial honesty of their government officials, and who have always contended that while fraud might be found in America and Russia, all German government officers would always be found to come up to the Roosevelt standard, and be able to show a record as clean as a hound's tooth.

It is impossible to find out at this time how many officials are implicated or suspected; the government even refuses to let it become known how many people are under arrest. Among the leaders, Heinrich and Frankenthal. The latter is a multi-millionaire, and it is some consolation to think that he will be able to make good the losses, though this will not heal the wounded German pride.

The Kaiser was informed of the affair just as he was about to prepare his speech for the opening of the Maritime exposition here, and was so upset by the news that he found it almost impossible to entertain the King and Queen of Sweden, who were his guests at the time. He has given orders that the whole affair is to be sifted to the bottom, and that all the guilty ones are to be punished, no matter how high their standing.

Rumors to the effect that certain high officials in the navy department have received their share of the stolen funds have so far been found to be unfounded, and are not generally believed.

### SAVE BRITISH BABIES.

#### Mrs. Bertrand Russell Conducts Public School for Mothers.

London, June 15.—Hundreds of poor mothers in London are deeply grateful to the Hon. Mrs. Bertrand Russell, who was formerly Mrs. A. Peersall Smith, of Philadelphia, whose school for mothers in this city has proved a great success. Mrs. Russell commenced her ambitious scheme in a very small way—first there were night classes for mothers who were allowed to bring their children and who were instructed by Dr. Dora Bunting how to properly feed and clothe their little ones. These classes immediately became very popular, but Mrs. Russell, who was often present in person, soon discovered that the mothers themselves were as poorly fed as their babies and to remedy this she changed the night classes to day classes and provided a substantial dinner at a price of 3 cents to those who could afford to pay, while those who could not were fed free of charge.

The mortality of children in England is appalling when compared with that of America, but thanks to the splendid example set by the two Americans, Nathan Strauss and Mrs. Russell, whose experiments have aroused widespread interest and caused many men and women of wealth to come forward with offers of help, the death rate among children less than 18 months of age will undoubtedly go down.

### Takes Terrible Revenge.

Venice, June 15.—A double tragedy recently took place in a traveling circus giving performances at the town of Mestre, a short distance from here. Among the performers were two acrobats, a man Raffaelli and his wife, Emma. A rich man about town had fallen in love with the latter and had begun a liaison with her. Accidentally Raffaelli discovered his wife's unfaithfulness and planned a terrible revenge.

While his wife was performing her dangerous acts in the flying trapeze under the roof of the circus tent, Raffaelli suddenly cut the rope which held the trapeze, and the young woman fell down into the sand of the arena, dying. Her lover rushed to her side, while he was holding her head on his lap kneeling at her side, Raffaelli left his head behind with an ax and then calmly surrendered to the police.

### Slaughter of Innocents.

Paris, June 15.—Owing to the extreme rigor of last winter and the willful destruction of song birds, France is threatened with the extinction of her larks, finches and thrushes. Professor Corelle, of Chambéry, has addressed an appeal to the public, warning them that if farmers, gamekeepers and poachers continue their conduct they will soon have exterminated all the small birds in the country. As proof of the necessity for legislative measures he declares that thousands of larks are killed and sold at 6 cents a dozen.

### Submarines Put Into Commission.

Vallejo, Cal., June 12.—The submarine boats Pike and Grampus have been put in commission, with Lieutenant Castle in temporary command. The crews for the two divers assembled at the navy yards yesterday and will leave on the boats some time this week. The submarines will leave for the lower bay to make tests near San Francisco. The torpedo boat destroyers Farragut and Preble have arrived here from their visit to Portland.

### Adopts Secret Ballot.

Paris, June 15.—The Chamber of Deputies Saturday adopted an amendment to the voting law which practically puts into effect the secret Australian ballot system. There has been much complaint of the system of marking ballots in public. This has enabled the big land owners and manufacturers and political manipulators to exercise duress on the voters.

### Graft Indictments Stand.

San Francisco, June 13.—Judge Lawler today denied the motions of the attorneys for Patrick Calhoun and T. R. Ford and Abe Ruef to set aside the indictments returned by the McFarland grand jury a few weeks ago, charging them with bribery, and ordered that the cases must go to trial. The attorneys sought to have the indictments invalidated on the grounds that the jurors were prejudiced when they returned true bills.

### Dies to Save Czar.

Reval, June 13.—It became known here yesterday that a woman school teacher thwarted a plot to kill Czar Nicholas just after the ceremonies in the Gulf of Finland on the occasion of the king's visit. The woman had been picked by the nihilists to throw the bomb that would have killed the czar and his entire family, but she committed suicide rather than carry out the mandates of the secret order.

# MORE FLOODS AHEAD

## Heavy Rains Swell Missouri and Kaw Rivers.

### TOPEKA PEOPLE MUCH ALARMED

#### Prospect Now Is That Water Will Go Higher Than Before—Heavy Rain in Kaw Valley.

Kansas City, June 13.—Unusually heavy rains fell yesterday in Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri and Iowa and the weather bureau predicts that the Kaw and the Missouri rivers will again reach the high stage on Wednesday night. At 5 p. m. the Missouri here had fallen 25 of a foot, but had risen 1 of a foot at St. Joseph and continues to rise there. The Kaw fell about six inches yesterday and was stationary last night. At Topeka the Kaw is rising rapidly.

The weather bureau predicts that the new flood at Topeka will exceed that of Tuesday. All of the tributaries of the Kaw are very high, and more rain is threatened. The crest of the new flood here will be reached Sunday night. A heavy downpour yesterday morning caused some additional trouble from flooded basements in the West bottoms, where the sewers were unable to carry off the excess. No further damage was experienced in the stockyards, Argentine and Armourdale, Kansas, and in Harlem, Mo., and none is expected.

The stockyards are still idle and the packing-houses were unable to continue working even if they had stock. The railroads, on the other hand, were in better shape, but schedules were still disarranged.

### OIL TRUST FOUND GUILTY.

#### Rochester Jury Brings in Verdict in Rebate Case.

Rochester, N. Y., June 13.—Guilty as charged in the indictment, was the verdict brought in by the Federal court jury in the Standard Oil company case here at 6:30 o'clock this evening. The jury had been out since the noon recess.

Daniel J. Keefe, of Buffalo, who conducted the defense, moved for a new trial and it was arranged to have Judge Hazel hear arguments on the motion July 7.

The oil company was placed on trial June 1 for an alleged violation of the interstate commerce law in accepting a concession from the filed tariff on shipments of oil from Olean, N. Y., to Rutland and Bellows Falls, Vt. There were 40 counts in the indictment, each representing action on a car of oil. The maximum fine on each count is \$30,000, or a total for the whole of the shipments of \$800,000.

### CANADA CLOSES DOOR.

#### All Japanese Immigration is Shut Off for One Year.

Vancouver, B. C., June 13.—The Canadian government has notified the government of Japan that the limit of immigrants allowed for one year has been reached and that no more Japanese laborers can be sent to Canada before January 1 of next year. This is in accordance with the understanding reached between the Laurier administration and Tokio last January, which provided that not more than 400 each year should be sent. Six hundred and eight had come up to the end of May, and more are arriving by every boat. It looks like a barefaced evasion of the arrangement on the part of Japan.

Japanese Consul Yada said tonight that even the 400 had not yet arrived, when the number of tourists and students was taken into consideration. As a matter of fact, Canadian officials assert, not more than 5 per cent of the new arrivals are exempt from the arrangement.

### More Track Washed Out.

Missoula, Mont., June 13.—It was reported Thursday night that several miles of Northern Pacific track had been washed out near Sand Point, and there is little hope of opening up transportation between Missoula and Spokane for some time. Heavy rains last night delayed repair work west of here, and much of the work has been destroyed. An effort will be made tomorrow to run a train from Arlee and transfer passengers who have been stalled for several days at Dixon. The distance between the two points is 14 miles.

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