

STORM PLAYS HAVOC

Five Bridges Gone Near Bellingham and Trains Stalled.

MANY OTHER SPANS SWAYING

Wire Communication Cut—Five Miles of Northern Pacific Is Under Water—Dikes Broken.

Bellingham, Wash., Nov. 30.—Five steel bridges, two railway and three wagon, across the Nooksack river, have been carried away within the past 24 hours, entailing \$100,000 loss.

Railway bridges are in danger, as are three highway bridges. The Bellingham Bay & British Columbia bridge at Everson is said to be undermined and swaying in the current.

A jam is forming against the Great Northern railway bridge at Ferndale, and both railway and county bridges are likely to go out.

Railway traffic is almost completely blocked by slides and washouts. Bellingham has had but one train today, that from the south, at noon.

The top of the Skagit river dikes is less than two feet above the flood, and the stream is still rising.

SHAKE-UP IN NAVY.

Sweeping Changes December 1—Fighting Men Get Chance.

Washington, Nov. 30.—Heeding the cry for reform in naval affairs, Secretary Meyer on Wednesday will inaugurate the most sweeping changes in the navy department since the establishment of the bureau system in 1842.

The secretary of the navy will be an ex-director of banks and manufacturing companies, he hopes to put the department on a business basis beyond the dream of his predecessors.

The selection of four responsible advisers on subjects within the four groups into which duties of the department fall, to be known as the aide for material, the aide for personnel, the aide for operations of the fleet and the aide for inspection of the fleet.

The establishment of a modern, efficient, cost-keeping system in the navy department and at navy yards.

The separation of shore-yard work into two divisions of hulls and machinery.

The abolition of the bureau of construction and equipment.

Count Talks to John D. Cleveland, Nov. 30.—Count P. A. De Vries was successful today in his effort to see John D. Rockefeller in reference to draining the Zuyder Zee and opening up its bed to truck farming.

British Plan Big Ships. London, Nov. 30.—The keel plates of two monster warships, the Orion, the improved dreadnaught battleship, and the Lion, the cruiser, were laid today, the former at Portsmouth and the latter at Devonport.

Sugar Men Are on Trial. New York, Nov. 30.—On criminal charges resulting from the revelations of extensive underweighing frauds on the docks of the American Sugar Refining company in Williamsburg, seven former employees of that company were placed on trial in the United States circuit court here today.

Texas Has Heavy Snow. Woodward, Okla., Nov. 30.—Communication with Guyman, Beaver and other towns of the Panhandle of Oklahoma has been cut off and the extent of today's storm cannot be learned.

Cotton Crop Total Out. New Orleans, La., Nov. 30.—The Times-Democrat, in presenting its correspondence's final report on the cotton crop of 1905, states that the crop is reported to total 1,165,500 bales.

TAFT O. K.S BALLINGER.

Secretary of Interior Files Strong and Comprehensive Report.

Washington, Nov. 30.—If congress carries out all the recommendations made by Secretary of the Interior Ballinger in his annual report to the President, practical and fair-minded advocates of conservation of natural resources will have nothing to ask beyond a strict enforcement of the law.

Secretary Ballinger's report is in no degree sensational. It is a plain, forceful recital of conditions as they exist. In it the many weaknesses of the public land laws are pointed out, and practical remedies are suggested.

From first to last the report is free from comment on bureaus not under the jurisdiction of the secretary of the interior. There is no reference to friction with the forest service, but at places indications of the secretary's desire that congress shall absolutely define the powers of the secretary of the interior, so that in future there will be no excuse whatever for officials of another department undertaking to dictate questions of policy and administration to his branch of the government service.

Because of the prominence given to the question of water powers through newspapers and magazines of late, Secretary Ballinger's views on that subject perhaps overshadow all other features of his report.

LAST STAND NEAR.

Nicaragua Insurgents Ready for Death Struggle With Zelaya.

Washington, Nov. 30.—Nicaragua insurgents are now engaged in what is expected to be the final grapple with the Zelayan forces, according to unofficial advice tonight reaching Salvador.

Senor Estrada, representative of the Nicaraguan insurrectionary forces here. The advice indicates that fighting is in progress at Rama and Greytown, and that a general assault on Managua, the capital, will follow.

Ex-Slave Dies, Aged 115. Pensacola, Fla., Nov. 26.—John C. Calhoun, colored, aged 115 years, died in Pensacola last night, and the death certificate as sworn to and filed in the office of the city clerk gives the date of the negro's birth as 1794.

Women May Be Smugglers. Boston, Nov. 29.—In the arrest here today, at the request of the federal office of New York, of Miss Mary S. Moore and Miss Isabella Holland, of this city, dealers in women's underwear, the government authorities believe they have materially assisted in the investigation of illegal importations from France.

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Gunboat Princeton Leaves. Seattle, Wash., Nov. 30.—The gunboat Princeton, Commander C. H. Hayes, sailed from the Puget sound navy-yard this morning for Nicaragua, where she will join the gunboat Vicksburg, which is now at Corinto.

Lumber Jumps Skyward. Winipeg, Man., Nov. 30.—Rough lumber advanced \$1 per 1000 all over northwestern Canada Saturday.

To Define New Orleans Molasses. Washington, Dec. 1.—Application has been made to the signal corps for the use of army aeroplanes at Los Angeles during the aviation meet there from January 10 to 20 next.

Terminal Rates Must Be Paid. Washington, Dec. 1.—The right of the interstate commerce commission to fix railroad terminal charges was denied by the United States supreme court today in a decision by Justice Brewer.

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

SECRETARY KNOX GIVES OPINION

Says Groce and Cannon Committed No Serious Offense.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Secretary Knox called on the President today and discussed with him the increasing importance of the struggle with Nicaragua. Neither he nor the President made any comment on publication on the developments up to date.

The gist of the controversy is that neither Groce nor Cannon committed any grave crime cognizable by the laws of warfare, and therefore they were executed illegally and savagely.

Thomas Jefferson, when secretary of state, laid down this principle: "No citizen has a right to go to war on his own authority; and for what he does without right he ought to be punished."

This, too, is considered good law by the state department, but how he is to be punished is provided for as above. That is to say, that there must be no executions without the commission of a grave crime.

If Groce and Cannon, as prisoners of war, conspired to escape or if they were spies, they could have been shot summarily and the United States could not interfere.

The present case is, from all the legal points of view, one justifying the intervention on which the United States government is now engaged by President Taft and Secretary Knox.

FAVORS PRIVATE CAPITAL.

Senate Committee Would Nullify Irrigation Law.

Washington, Nov. 27.—In advance of the report of the senate committee on irrigation comes the statement that the majority will favor emasculation of the national irrigation law, so as to give to private capital the privilege of developing all possible reclamation projects.

A minority of the committee, among them Senator Chamberlain, is expected to oppose any such plan. Private business interests are said to be back of this movement, which Ballinger indicated in a speech before the National Irrigation congress at Spokane in August.

The plan involves indorsement of the proposed \$30,000,000 bond issue, to complete projects now under way, with the gradual withdrawal of the government from all localities where private parties desire to execute reclamation projects.

Wood Backs Up Dr. Osier. Washington, Nov. 26.—Oslerization of army officers to a radical degree was recommended to the War Department today by General Leonard Wood, in command of the Department of the East.

The withdrawal is ordered providing Congress enacts legislation for the control or disposal of the lands. The land withdrawn is the waterway in connection with the Department of the East, which has been made that in granting rights of way to the Hill and Harriman railroads through the Deschutes Canyon.

Yeliza Is Surrounded. Washington, Dec. 2.—Minister Castillo, diplomatic representative of the provisional government of Nicaragua, today received a cable message from Provisional President Estrada, saying he had received proposals of surrender from Senor Calderon, representing President Yeliza.

Old Gunboat to Go to Nicaragua Coast. Navy Yard, Puget Sound, Wash., Dec. 2.—Anticipating orders from Washington directing that the gunboat Wheeling be placed in commission to hurry to the Nicaraguan coast, that ship, which has been out of commission here for several years, is now alongside of pier No. 7.

Nine Marines Missing. Colon, Nov. 30.—Nine men are missing from the United States gunboat Marietta, which is lying off Port Limon, Costa Rica.

Los Angeles Wants Aeroplanes. Washington, Dec. 1.—Application has been made to the signal corps for the use of army aeroplanes at Los Angeles during the aviation meet there from January 10 to 20 next.

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District of Columbia May Vote. Washington, Nov. 30.—President Taft has decided that Washington and the District of Columbia shall have, in common with the rest of the country, a democratic form of government—if he can bring it about.

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MORE BONDS IN SIGHT.

New Tariff Law Not Up to Expectations as Revenue Maker.

Washington, Nov. 30.—Treasury officials are only fairly well satisfied with the way the new tariff law is working from a revenue standpoint. Up to today the receipts from customs for the present fiscal year amount in round numbers to \$189,000,000. This is nearly \$29,000,000 more than was collected for the same period last year, under the Dingley law.

The receipts this month, however, show a falling off. In October they were \$29,000,000 and this month they were only \$24,000,000 in the aggregate.

Unless the revenues from customs and other sources increase or other means of cutting down expenditures are discovered, this working balance will steadily decline and soon reach a point where it will be necessary to issue Panama bonds in order to replenish the funds of the treasury.

Over \$96,000,000 of the funds of the treasury have been used on the Panama canal and it will require a bond sale to reimburse the treasury.

1,000,000 ACRES FOR ENTRY.

Secretary Ballinger Restores Valuable Land in Montana.

Washington, Dec. 1.—An especially important ruling was made today by Secretary Ballinger, of the interior department, when he restored to settlement and entry approximately 1,000,000 acres of land in eastern Montana, which was withdrawn some time ago for the purpose of making allotment to the Rocky Boy band of Chippewa Indians.

The target fired at was a rectangular canvas figure six feet by twelve. It proved a dim object to fire at, with only the uncertain gleam of a searchlight following its rapid movement through the water.

Government boats and searchlights from both sides of the river guarded against the possibility of commercial vessels entering the field of fire during the practice.

W. A. CLARK IS ANTI-TRUST.

Prefers, Himself, to Work as Individual, Says ex-Senator.

New York, Nov. 27.—"Too much coming in, and not enough going out; European consumption of copper is not keeping pace with American production," said ex-Senator William A. Clark today, as he stepped from the gangway of the inbound steamer Mauretania.

Life's Savings Meltd. San Francisco, Nov. 29.—Judge Trout today made an order allowing \$5000 worth of molten gold to be turned over to Thomas Mayman and wife as soon as they prove their claim to the metal, which was found by some boys in the debris after the fire of April, 1906.

80-Year-Olds Run Race. Los Angeles, Nov. 26.—Richard Ellison, 607 Cornwell street, 80 years old, and the father of 19 children; Dr. D. M. Lawrence, of the Hollenbeck home, also an octogenarian, and G. L. Robertson, founder of the World's Anti-Tobacco league, ran 100 yards against time today.

Turkey Loss Election. St. Louis, Nov. 26.—Frankfurters and sauerkraut, accompanied by boiled cabbage and potatoes, defeated turkey and cranberry sauce in a referendum vote at the St. Louis workhouse.

Is Japanese White Man? Richmond, Va., Nov. 27.—The question whether a Japanese is a white man within the meaning of the naturalization law was vigorously debated in the United States circuit court of appeals here today.

Oil Head Up for Perjury. Austin, Tex., Nov. 29.—Henry Clay Pierce, of Kansas, oil magnate, will be tried here Wednesday for alleged false swearing. The case was continued last August, and relates to an affidavit filed by Mr. Pierce when the Rogers-Pierce company entered the state in 1900, after having been ousted for violation of the anti-trust laws.

Mummy Ramesses Arrives. Boston, Nov. 27.—Rameses, king of Egypt, resting aboard the steamship Aragonia, while the vessel is discharging a portion of the cargo here preparatory to proceeding to New York.

Hall Hits Los Angeles. Los Angeles, Nov. 27.—Hallstones as large as walnuts fell in various portions of this city late today for ten minutes. A sleet storm followed a sudden fall in the temperature, the falling sleet remaining on the ground some time, affording an unusual sight for Southern Californians.

Hunter 'Finishes' Game. Omaha, Neb., Nov. 29.—While hunting today, Wesley McBride, aged 16, according to his own version of the affair, accidentally shot his companion Harry Long, aged 15, in the jaw, and then fired two shots into his head to 'make a good job of it.'

Cable for Assistant Secretary. Washington, Nov. 27.—Benjamin S. Cable, a Chicago attorney, will succeed Ormsby McHarg as assistant secretary of commerce and labor, according to a statement made today by Senator Culberson of Illinois.

COAST EXTENSION SANCTIONED.

Construction of 1500 Miles of Roadway Will Soon Be Under Way.

Chicago, Ill., Nov. 29.—The directors of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway company have decided that it will soon become necessary to extend that road to the Pacific coast in order that it may continue to be a strong competitor of the St. Paul and the Burlington roads.

This proposition has already been submitted to the proper authorities of the several states which require state authority for the issuance of the new railroad securities. This authority has not yet been given by any one of the three states to which the proposition has been submitted.

It is also known, although not admitted by the company's officials, that an approval has been given for construction of at least 1500 miles of road to be completed within the next two or three years.

In connection with the proposed issue of new stock, it is remembered that the St. Paul's first move toward the Pacific coast extension was the issuing of exactly the same amount of new stock.

RIVER SAFE FROM NIGHT ATTACK

Moving Target Punctured in Gloom 12 Out of 16 Times.

Fort Stevens, Or., Nov. 29.—The efficiency of artillery practice at night was tested thoroughly last night by the Thirty-third company, commanded by Captain Willis, of the Coast Artillery corps. This is the first year that night firing at a moving target has been tried in the United States army.

Three preliminary shots were fired for the purpose of testing firing conditions. Immediately afterward 16 record shots were fired, 12 of which tore through the target.

The target fired at was a rectangular canvas figure six feet by twelve. It proved a dim object to fire at, with only the uncertain gleam of a searchlight following its rapid movement through the water.

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U. S. NAVY SECOND

Tonnage of War Vessels Exceeded Only by England.

GERMANY SOON TAKE OUR PLACE

Kaiser Has More Battleships Under Construction—Will Be Second Power on High Seas.

Washington, Nov. 27.—Measured by actual naval tonnage in service, the United States ranks second among the nations of the world; Great Britain alone surpasses this country. But if to the tonnage in service is added tonnage of warships authorized and in course of construction, the United States is compelled to yield second place to Germany.

Great Britain 1,758,350
United States 882,785
France 608,700
Germany 602,920
Japan 596,368
Russia 259,263
Italy 216,038
Austria 114,897

It will be noted that Japan is far inferior to the United States in its naval strength, standing fifth on the list. It will also be noted from the following table, showing the total naval tonnage of the great nations, as would be the case were vessels building now completed.

Great Britain 2,005,873
Germany 820,692
United States 785,687
France 766,906
Japan 489,704
Russia 412,203
Italy 237,318

These figures are interesting in several respects. Germany, for instance, which long stood fourth on the list of naval powers, has rapidly passed both the United States and France.

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GUN DEAFNESS IN THE NAVY.

Officers and Men Run Great Danger in Practice, Says Physician.

Gun deafness is becoming a menace in the navy, according to Dr. Gilbert Totten McPherson, of New Haven, who has given the subject personal investigation. During target practice the small-caliber guns are mostly used—8-pounders, 12-pounders, 3-inch and 5-inch.

Three rounds; so they must be saved for real action. Their accuracy is destroyed as soon as they begin to erode at the muzzles from the high temperature of the gases, calculated at the moment of explosion at 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit. At this temperature the steel rubs off a little, no matter how hard and finely tempered it is.

The sharp ring of the six-pounder now being generally used in target practice on the American warships, Dr. Totten says, will put out of the service many fine officers and men with ruptured tympanums.

The admiral board has advised the use of an ear plug. Another device, the "blast screen," is also being tried in the English navy. Naval experts say it does not really preserve the hearing, but gives the enemy a bigger target to shoot at.

THE CONTENTED PEASANTS. The Contadinos Live a Life of Toil and Hardship, but Are Happy.

In the country and all through the mountainous regions of Italy, though the people live a life of toil from year to year, they are happy and contented. In the summer they watch their fields of waving corn and carefully guard their grapes. In the fall they harvest their crops and make their wines; in the winter they sit by the fire and tell stories of days gone by.

THE SMALLEST ENGINE. A Tiny Afair Which Weighs More than an Ordinary Match.

Tiny Tim is the name of the smallest engine in the world. It is made of gold and steel, and is so small that a common house fly seems large in comparison, says Answers.

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