PACKING-HOUSE REBATES

STATEMENT BY INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION.

Gross Violations of the Law for Which It Is Difficult to Secure Convictions.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—The annual report of the Interstate Commerce Commission, which was transmitted to Congress today, renews the declaration made in previous reports that in its present condition the act to regulate commerce cannot be enforced. As to remedial legislation the commission renews the statement, made in its previous annual report, that it "has little to suggest and nothing new to propose."

The feature of the report is the almost sensational statement of the relations existing between the railroads and a comparatively few heavy shippers. Referring to the commission's recent investigations into the movement of packing-house products and of grain and grain products, the report says:

"The facts therein developed are of such a character that no thoughtful person can contemplate them with indifference. That the leading traffic officials of many of the principal railway lines, men occupying high positions and charged with the most important duties, should deliberately violate the statute law of the land and in some cases agree with each other to do so; that it should be thought by them necessary to destroy vouchers and so to manipulate bookkeeping as to obliterate evidence of the transactions; that hundreds of thousands of dollars should be found in unlawful rebates to a few great packing-houses; that the business of railroad transportion should to such an extent be conducted in open disregard of law, must be surprising and offensive to all right-minded persons.

"Equally startling at least is the fact that the owners of these packing-houses, men whose names are known throughout the commercial world, should seemingly be eager to augment their gains with the enormous amounts of these rebates, which they receive in plain defiance of a Federal statute."

That there are palliating circumstances under which railroad officials act, the commission is not unmindful, and the opinion is expressed that existing laws should be so amended that every manager who desires to observe them can do so without risk of sacrificing their property. The application of the remedy, the report says, is fraught with dangers to the public, and it should not be applied unless the public is fully protected.

In view of those great combinations which have been formed, and are now forming, by which railway competition will be largely eliminated, some method should be provided by which the Government can exercise in fact that control over railway rates and operations which courts without number have asserted that it possessed and which many persons suppose that it now exerts. The commission believes that the whole law should be revised upon some conservative theory and some workable basis.

In view of the gross violations of the act the Commission suggests that if it is not possible to amend this law in its more essential features, it ought at least to be possible to deal with those coercive features of the act which are intended to prevent practices of this character. Referring to the court decisions that penalties cannot be imposed upon corporations violating the act, and that only their agents can be punished, the Commission says:

"Now, the object of rate-cutting is to get business and make money, and the corporation, if any one, profits by the illegal act. It is the real offender and ought certainly to pay the penalty, as well as its officers. If every illegal act of that character subjected the carrier to a substantial forfeiture, so that the money result of the transaction was likely to be the other way, the inducement to commit such offenses would be greatly diminished."

Taking up the difficulty of securing convictions in case of rate-cutting, the report says:

"To convict for paying a rebate it is necessary to show not merely that the railroad company paid a rebate to a particular shipper, but it must also be shown that it did not pay the same rebate to some other shipper with respect to the same kind of traffic moving at the same time under similar conditions. This is almost always impossible. Departure from the published rate is the thing which can be shown, and the thing which should be visited with fitting punishment."

It is urged that the 20th section should be amended so as to open the books of the carriers to the inspection of its agents under proper restrictions to prevent the misuse of information so obtained. It is also urged that if the powers of the commission are not to be generally enlarged, some method should be devised by which such orders as it can make may be enforced within a reasonable time.

After summarizing the results of its investigation of the handling of packing-house products, the commision says that the rebates were given to only five or six concerns, and adds:

"The effect is to give them an enormous advantage over smaller competitors located at other points. Already these competitors have mostly ceased to exist. These disclosures afford a prominent illustration of the manner in which secret rate concessions are tending to build up great trusts and monopolies at the expense of the small independent operator."

The commission found also, in investigating complaints made by Western millers, that the carriers east of Chicago made no serious pretense of maintaining the export rates on wheat, and that the carriers had agreed among themselves upon a rate from Chicago 2½ cents below the published tariff, resulting in a discrimination of from 2½ to 4 cents against flour. The open wheat tariff from Kansas City to Chicago has been 12 cents and the actual rate as low as 5 cents.

Of the practice prevalent in the West of allowing some particular individual a concession which enables him to handle practically the grain transported upon a particular railway, the report says:

"The different lines, in an effort to obtain a share of this business, deem it necessary to drive out of business the small buyer and to operate through a single large concern. One effect of this is to put the miller out of the market as an independent buyer."

Dealing with the traffic associations, the commission states that the secret "agreed" rates have been manipulated through these agencies, and says:

"It is not the business of this commission to enforce the anti-trust act, and we express no opinion as to the legality of the means adopted by the associations. We simply call attention to the fact that the decisions of the United States Supreme Court in the trans-Missouri and Joint Traffic Association cases have produced no effect upon the railroad operations of the country. Such associations in fact exist now as they did before those decisions, and with the same general effect. In justice to all parties we ought probably to add that it is difficult to see how our interstate railways could be operated with due regard to the interest of the shipper and the railway without concerted action of the kind afforded through these associations."

Preparations for Chicago Hearing.

CHICAGO, Jan. 23.—Members of the Interstate Commerce Commission arrived here today and began making preparations for investigating the Northwestern railway merger. Rumors to the effect that J. J. Hill and E. H. Harriman, who have been subpenaed to testify before the commission at its opening session tomorrow, would not appear owing to their absence in the East during the Supreme Court hearing of the Northern Securities Company, were lightly set aside by the Commissioners. Commissioner J. D. Yeomans stated that he had been assured personally of Mr. Hill's presence. Later the question of grain rates will be resumed, and he said it was probable the question on packing-house rates would be gone into again. Mr. Yeomans said he had heard nothing of the agreement made between presidents of the Western railways and the big packers to maintain legal rates.

J. P. Morgan has not been subpenaed, and will not be here. At the request of Attorneys Spencer and Grover, representing the Morgan-Hill roads, and Attorney Baldwin, representing the Harriman lines, the commissioners, it is said, have agreed to ask neither Hill nor Harriman anything that might prejudice the case now in the United States Supreme Court involving the validity of the Northern Securities Company. In view of this, it is said, the examination or inquiry that may be pursued will be on lines that will bring out the effect of combinations and consolidations on rates.

Mellen Summoned to Chicago.

ST. PAUL, Jan. 23.—President C. S. Mellen, of the Northern Pacific, when asked today if he had been served with a subpena from the Interstate Commerce Commission to appear before that body tomorrow in Chicago, replied in the affirmative.

"Of course I shall attend it," he said. "The commission has made the summons and I have no right to refuse, even if I had the inclination."

Mr. Mellen will go to Chicago tonight and other railroad officials also will probably go. Mr. Mellen said there was nothing contained in the summons to indicate the character of the investigation.

NEW ALASKAN RAILWAY CONCERN.

Incorporated Under the Laws of the State of Washington.

SEATTLE, Jan. 23.—The Alaska, Copper River & Yukon Railway Company has been incorporated under the laws of Washington to build a railroad from Prince William's Sound, in Alaska, through the Copper and Tanana River country to a point on the Yukon River near Eagle. The company proposes, in addition, to operate a steamship line from Seattle to Prince William's Sound; to build and maintain smelters and refineries in Alaska, and to carry on general mining transactions. The corporation is capitalized at $25,000,000, the entire stock of which it is claimed has been subscribed by Eastern and foreign capital. The estimated cost of the railway is placed at $10,000,000. The incorporators are E. D. Bannister, Alfred B. Iles and T. L. Parker.

Low Rates to Pacific Coast.

NEW YORK, Jan. 23.—The Transcontinental Passenger Association completed its labors today, and will hold its next meeting at Hotel Coronado, San Diego, Cal., in April. The interchangeable mileage ticket was left in the hands of a committee. A round-trip rate of $47 50 was made from New Orleans and Chicago for the Shriners at Los Angeles. A rate of $52 50 from New Orleans and $47 50 from St. Louis was made for the A. O. U. W. and Travelers' Protective Association Conventions at Portland, Or., with an addition of $11 to these rates for a trip to San Francisco.

Railroads Must Cancel Order.

ST. PAUL, Jan. 23.—The State Railroad and Warehouse Commission today notified the Great Northern and Northern Pacific Railways that those roads must cancel a recent order abolishing St. Cloud, Fergus Falls and Crookston as terminal points, with the privileges as to rates belonging to terminals, and that unless the suggestion is heeded promptly, proper legal proceedings will be taken to enforce the order.

New Freight Car Company.

TACOMA, Jan. 23.—A company composed of Tacoma capitalists was organized today for the purpose of building a large plant at Tacoma for the manufacture of railway freight cars constructed of Washington fir. The capacity at first will be eight to 10 cars a day, and 200 to 300 skilled workmen will be employed. The company will send part of its product to Japan in knock-down form.

MRS. RICHARDSON'S DEFENSE

Defendant in the Murder Case May Take the Stand Today.

PLATTSBURG, Mo., Jan. 23.—Mrs. Addie Richardson's defense was begun today in her trial for the murder of her husband, Frank W. Richardson, at Savannah. The defense will, it is expected, finish tomorrow, when the defendant will take the stand. Today it was shown that Mrs. Richardson's trips about the streets of Savannah after night, in company with Stewart Fife, which fact the state brought out yesterday, were to find her husband. Johnny Richardson, 14 years of age, was the first witness called by the defense, and told of going with his mother at 11:30 at night to find his father, and how, after Fife had located him, intoxicated, in a hotel, Mrs. Richardson had gone there and taken him home. This was corroborated by Mrs. Gertrude Grant, a sister of the dead man, and by the hotel proprietor. Others told of Mrs. Richardson's good character. They were Rev. John Atwill, rector of the church where Mrs. Richardson attended, and who had lived at the Richardson home, and Rev. A. R. Hunt.

The state made no attempt by cross-examination to break down the boy's testimony. Mrs. Richardson wept while her son was testifying. Mrs. Grant testified that she was at the Richardson home the night that Mrs. Richardson brought her husband home from the hotel. She said her brother was very much under the influence of liquor. Mrs. Richardson's general reputation in Texas, Kansas and Missouri, where she had lived, was, she said, good.

Dr. W. M. Kerr, a resident of Savannah for 12 years, and Peter Christiansen, who was a member of the grand jury that indicted Mrs. Richardson, also testified to Mrs. Richardson's good character. Christiansen was asked:

"You never heard others discuss her character?"

"No, sir; because I suppose there was nothing bad in it to discuss."

"And you signed the indictment against her for murder?"

"Yes sir."

No Defense in Mortensen Case.

SALT LAKE CITY, Jan. 23.—When the preliminary examination of Contractor Peter Mortensen, charged with the murder of James R. Hay, was resumed before Justice Neilsen today, Police Sergeant Janney related the details of the finding of Hay's body, describing the location of the grave in the snow-covered pasture, the footprints around it, and other details of the police investigation of the crime. Chief of Police Hilton and James Sharp, father-in-law of the murdered man, also testified. It is stated that the defense probably will not introduce any witnesses, but will submit the case on its merits.

Another Shock at Chilpanzingo.

MEXICO, Jan. 23.—Another slight earthquake shock shook Chilpanzingo yesterday afternoon, and the people ran about the streets in despair. No harm was done. Official data shows that 614 houses, not including the government buildings, were destroyed in the first and second earthquakes. The people continue panicstricken and many are leaving to establish themselves in other towns.

Mississippi Town Burning.

WINONA, Miss., Jan. 24.—Fire broke out shortly after midnight this (Friday) morning and at 2 A. M. several business houses have burned. The entire male population turned out to fight the flames. Lamb's restaurant, Harris' shoe store and the office of the Southern Express are among the buildings destroyed.

HE NAMES A CHIEF FOR THE CAYUSE INDIANS IN EASTERN OREGON.

Copyright photo by Lee Moorhouse, of Pendleton.
CHIEF JOSEPH.

PENDLETON, Or., Jan. 23.—Tu-wat-tui has been proclaimed chief of the Cayuse tribe of Indians, by the famous Chief Joseph, of the Nez Perces, and uncle of the late Young Chief, whose death occurred last Spring. Thus is settled a contest for the chieftainship of the tribe that has waged during the past year. There were two principal candidates for the honor, Paul Showaway and Young Sumpkin, with other aspirants of lesser note. Showaway appeared to have the better title to the office, and was believed at one time to have won out in the fight. Young Sumpkin believed he could win if he referred the matter to Chief Joseph, thinking that dignitary would name him for the place. He therefore asked Major Lee Moorhouse to write to Chief Joseph to name the chief. Chief Joseph replied as follows:

"Nespelam, Wash., Jan. 19.—To Major Lee Moorhouse, Pendleton, Or.—My Dear Friend: I have your good letter. You say that the Indians there would like for me to tell them through you just what my nephew, Young Chief, said before he died, and who he would like to come after him as chief of the Cayuses; also who I would like to act in that capacity, and in my answer I want to say to you, my friend Moorhouse, that just before Young Chief died he called me to him and said: 'My uncle, when I am dead and gone, I want you to take either of these to come after me as chief of the Cayuses—Tu-wat-tui or Ume-som-kin or Olicutt.'

"Now, I will select Tu-wat-tui. He is of the royal Cayuse blood, and his forefathers for generations before have been chiefs. U-lin-lip-lip (Red Elk) can tell you all about him.

"I say to them all, I make Tu-wat-tui chief. Now he is chief, and don't take any other. I call him now Chief Tu-wat-tui, and I tell you, my friend Moorhouse, to tell all the people on the Umatilla reservation that I, Chief Joseph, now make Tu-wat-tui chief of the Cayuses, and he must be respected and obeyed as such over there, and we will respect his rights over here in Nespelam. That is all. Very respectfully,

CHIEF JOSEPH."

Tu-wat-tui comes from a line of famous chiefs. His ancestors were prominent in the Yakima war of 1856, and in the troubles at the time Marcus Whitman was here. He is a man of the best character, physically perfect, and a specimen of the very best of the latter-day Indians. He is married to a niece of the late Dr. William McKay, one of the most noted and celebrated characters in this region in early days. His father was the war chief of the Cayuses. He was known as the "Catholic Chief." Some writers allege that he was responsible for the Whitman massacre.

NOT ALTOGETHER SENTIMENT

England's Interests Were on the Side of America During the War.

LONDON, Jan. 24.—The Times, in an editorial, says that the eagerness of the semiofficial press of the Continent to discredit Lord Cranbourne's statement seems likely to defeat itself. The Americans, says the Times, with their usual good sense, are not disposed to bear a permanent grudge against the governments and the peoples who misjudged the situation and espoused the losing cause in the Spanish-American War. They are quite ready to be friends, but they know the facts, and do not care to be taken for fools. There is only one way in which the statement of Lord Cranbourne can be impugned. That is by the production of the official correspondence. M. Hanotaux, ex-French Minister of Foreign Affairs, is said to be anxious for this course, and Great Britain will be equally ready to publish the correspondence, but cannot do so without the sanction of the other powers concerned.

"We do not pretend that England was actuated wholly by sentiment," says the Times. "Our interests were on the side of America, and we had sense enough to understand that this was the case. At the same time, sentiment entered largely into our motives. We were honestly glad to do the United States a service at a critical time. They have already recognized that, and will recognize it still more when the details of the negotiations come to be known."

Significance of Salisbury's Action.

NEW YORK, Jan. 23.—The Daily Graphic, referring to Lord Cranbourne's statement in the House of Commons, says that the real significance of Lord Salisbury's action is known and appreciated by the United States Government, but, if it is to bear the fruit to which it is entitled, it should be better known to the American public, says the Tribune's London correspondent.

"The old policy of this country," adds the Graphic, "was based on a certain element of mistrust and suspicion. Lord Salisbury has rightly judged that if Anglo-American relations are to be eternally friendly, and if the fundamental identity of the supreme interest of both powers is to be completely realized, every vestige of mistrust btween them must be discarded."

Will Join Atlantic Station.

SANTIAGO DE CHILE, Jan. 23.—The United States battle-ships Iowa and Wisconsin have received orders to leave Valparaiso for the Atlantic station.

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION.

Recommends Government Supervision of the Trusts.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—The Industrial Commission, after several years spent in investigation of the industrial condition of the country with the view of making recommendations relative to assist in the solution of the problems of the times, has completed and sent to the printer its first report.

On the subject of the trusts, the commission follows closely the lines of recommendations laid down by the President in his annual message. The supervision by the National Government is recommended. The most radical specific step suggested in that direction by the report is that the books of all corporations should be subject at all times to inspection, as are the books of National banks. This, it is claimed, would go far toward protecting the public against impositions in the way of overcapitalization and other devices. The commission discusses Government ownership of railroads and telegraph lines, but does not recommend such a departure from present methods. There are some recommendations concerning taxation that will attract attention. One of these looks to the imposition of certain taxes on private property by the states direct.

Envoys to the Coronation.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—General James H. Wilson and Captain Clark, who will represent the Army and Navy at the coronation of King Edward, talked with the President today in a general way concerning their duties on that occasion. Whitelaw Reid will head the special embassy, and on the invitation of Mr. Reid General Wilson and Captain Clark will spend several days at his residence near New York City for the purpose of agreeing on a programme for participation in the coronation ceremonies. Captain Clark later visited the Capitol and was presented to the Senators by Senator Proctor.

Pension for Colonel Liscum's Widow.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—The Pension Office has granted a pension of $30 a month to the widow of Colonel Liscum, of the Ninth Infantry, who was killed at Tien Tsin during the campaign in China.

Snow in Kansas.

TOPEKA, Kan., Jan. 23.—A heavy snow fell this afternoon in Southern Kansas. At 10 o'clock tonight the snow was four inches deep in Fort Scott and was still falling at a rate to indicate that by morning it would be twice that depth. It prevents a threatened water famine.

GRIEVANCES OF IRELAND

REDMOND BRINGS UP THE WHOLE QUESTION IN THE COMMONS.

Says Resistance to the Government Is a Duty and Rebellion Merely Question of Expediency.

LONDON, Jan. 24.—The debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne was resumed in the House of Commons today by John Redmond, the Irish National leader, who moved an amendment raising the whole question of Irish grievances. He declared that instead of remedying admitted wrongs, the government has fallen back on the old methods of coercion. The Irish people will yet teach Mr. Wyndham (the Chief Secretary for Ireland) to repent his refusal to grant the reasonable demands of Ireland in regard to the compulsory sale and purchase of land. There is no country in the world where crime is less frequent than in Ireland, yet the coercion act has been resurrected after a decade and has been ruthlessly applied. Scores, including members of the House of Commons, have been unjustifiably imprisoned and trial by jury has been abolished. The whole intellect of Ireland is against the government, and in such circumstances resistance to the government is a duty and rebellion becomes merely a question of expediency. Though a hundred years have passed since the union, English rule of Ireland still rests upon force and corruption. The Irish will never be contented until they are masters of their own country.

John P. Hayden (Irish Nationalist) seconded the amendment.

Replying to Mr. Redmond, Mr. Wyndham traversed almost all of his statements and declared that no government expected to settle the Irish question but only hoped to do a little toward improving it. He said that the land act of 1881 was a drastic measure, having produced a litigious war which ruined many people. The strongest argument against introducing compulsion into the purchase and sale of land, Mr. Wyndham said, was that such action will provoke every landlord and every tenant to fight from court to court on every disputable point. He reiterated his conviction that the power of the United Irish League is declining and that it has only 74 branches, and that it is having a prejudicial effect on economics. The present agitation, declared Mr. Wyndham, is the work of a few determined persons, and no man who is not a cur would hesitate to take such steps as are open to him to suppress this wretched form of bullying the government. He is determined, he said, while dealing justly with Ireland, to fight for liberty and the protection of property. At the close of Mr. Wyndham's remarks the House adjourned.

WHY SCHEEPERS WAS SHOT.

Had Been Convicted of Seven Murders and Flogging of White Man.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—The War Secretary, Mr. Brodrick, was asked by William Redmond (Irish Nationalist) in the House of Commons today why Commandant Scheepers was executed last Saturday at Graaf Reinet, Cape Colony. The Secretary replied that Scheepers was shot because he had been convicted of various offenses against the usages of war, including seven cold-blooded murders of natives and the flogging of a white man. Mr. Brodrick added that the fact that Commandant Scheepers was a prisoner of war carried no exemption from trial for murder or other violations of the rules of war.

Mr. Balfour, the government leader in the House, partially parried an interesting question put by Mr. MacLaren (Liberal) as to whether any proposal in behalf of the leaders of the Boers, with the view of bringing about a settlement of the war, had been received by the government since the negotiations between General Kitchener and General Botha. "No proposal of that kind," said Mr. Balfour, "has reached us on the part of any one able to speak for the leaders of the Boer forces.

The evasive reply of the government leader was taken to be a confirmation of the reports that proposals had been received from the Boer delegates in Europe, but had been rejected.

French Battle-Ship Fitting Out.

PARIS, Jan. 23.—A dispatch from Toulon to the Temps says that the French battle-ship Charlemagne is still fitting out at that port, and quotes the French authorities as saying that the vessel is not going to Morocco.

PARIS, Jan. 24. — The Echo de Paris states that the Charlemagne will leave Toulon today, and that her mission is a friendly visit to the Sultan of Morocco at Rabat, similar to the visit recently paid the Sultan by an English warship. The paper says that a German warship is at present on its way to Morocco, and declares there is no connection between the visit of the Charlemagne and the murder of French officers in Morocco.

Economic Supremacy of the World.

VIENNA, Jan. 23.—At a meeting of the Austro-Hungarian Export Association yesterday, Professor Cicalek, in the course of an address on America's economic future, based on the theme that the United States is preparing to conquer the economic supremacy of the world, prophesied that that country would succeed in so organizing the capital of the world as to create a "trust" thereof.

Calls It a Catastrophe.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—Lady Stanley, wife of Sir Henry M. Stanley, asserts that she has high authority for saying that the Italian legal differences have been overcome and that negotiations are well advanced for the transfer of the entire Borghez gallery to the United States. She implores the civilized world to join in averting such a catastrophe.

Conflicts in Armenia and Turkey.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 23. — The Kurds are in the field in Armenia, and sanguinary tribal conflicts have occurred in the Vilayets of Bitlis and Van. Twenty men were killed in the Bitlis fight, and both sides suffered heavily at Van. Bulgarians and Turkish troops have been in conflict in the Vilayet of Kossovo. Ten Bulgarians were killed.

Lemberg Governor Apologizes.

LEMBERG, Austria, Jan. 23.—The Provincial Governor has expressed regret to the Russian Consul here for the occurrence of last Tuesday night when a Polish demonstration before the Russian Consulate was dispersed by a detachment of Hussars.

Wolf Story From Austria.

VIENNA, Jan. 23.—The report that wolves devoured an entire wedding party of 22 persons, near Usicsa, Servia, yesterday, is discredited here. The statement appeared in an obscure paper of this city several days ago.

Emperor William's Suggestion.

BERLIN, Jan. 23.—Emperor William has expressed a wish that the inhabitants of Berlin should not illuminate the city on his birthday, January 27, but devote the money which might be thus expended to helping the unemployed and needy.

The New German Loan.

BERLIN, Jan. 23.—The syndicate of German bankers who have been floating the new 3 per cent loans, amounting to 200,000,000 marks, have received subscriptions from the United States nearly covering the entire amount of the issue.

Declined to Meet an Envoy.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—It is rumored in the lobbies of the House of Commons that a Boer delegate from Acting President Schalk-Burger last June saw Lord Rosebery and submitted peace proposals to him. Lord Rosebery acquainted Lord Salisbury with this fact, but, according to this rumor, the Cabinet declined to consider the matter on the ground that the war was coming to an end with the unconditional surrender of the Boers.

British Transport Stranded.

QUEENSTOWN, Jan. 23.—The British transport Minnesota, with troops for South Africa, stranded while leaving Queenstown today. She was subsequently released and proceeded, having sustained no serious damage.

Ito Sails for Home.

NAPLES, Jan. 23.—Marquis Ito, the Japanese statesman, sailed from here today for Japan on the Hamburg-American Line steamer Klaschou.

AROUND OLD CHARLESTON.

Some Things Seen at the Exposition and in the City.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 13.—(Special correspondence.)—The greatest day since the opening of the exposition was "Liberty Bell day," January 10. The historical old bell, with its escorts, reached the city about 10 o'clock, and amid the firing of cannon, chimes from church towers and blowing of whistles, it was taken to the exposition grounds, where interesting exercises were held. Two thousand school children sang patriotic songs, and the auditorium was one mass of waving flags. The day was warm and clear, and one could not imagine it was midwinter. In the evening the International League of Press Clubs arrived in Charleston. Two hundred journalists came by a special train.

A grand reception was given them by the Woman's Board of the Exposition. Among the Oregon people present were Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Dosch, Miss Dosch, Miss Camile Dosch, George Slocum, Byron Nicholas, W. A. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. B. S. Pague, Mrs. H. L. Pittock, Miss Pittock, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Myers, Miss Agnes Lane and Mrs. Edyth Tozier Weatherred.

The following day with the Press Association, was given to a business session in the morning, when, among other things the trip to Portland, Or., was loudly cheered as the itinerary was presented. A business session will be held in Boston the last week in June. A special train will leave immediately thereafter for Oregon, carrying 200 of the leading journalists of the East. In connection with this meeting of the Press League, it might be stated that the Northwest was honored by the election of Mrs. Edyth Tozier Weatherred, of Portland, as a member of the governing board. This is the first time the Northwest has been thus honored, and only one woman is elected to the board each year.

The Press League meeting closed with cheers and good words for the people of Oregon and for the persistence on the part of the Portland Press Club in securing the special train for the trip next Summer. A United States revenue cutter was waiting to take the league to Fort Sumpter and around the harbor. Refreshments were served on board the cutter and 300 jolly editors and their friends enjoyed a two hours' spin around this historical harbor.

Landing at the exposition grounds a tour of the grounds was made and the Oregonians accompanying the delegation did not forget to have the Eastern folk tarry at the exhibit of the Webfoot state. Words of wonder and admiration were heard from many lips. The forestry exhibit was declared to be the most interesting display from any state or country. Our literature was eagerly gathered up. The Oregonian, the Pacific Farmers, and a few Oregon Statesmans, which were on hand all quickly disappeared. The exhibits from Oregon stimulated the desire of league members to visit the West the coming Summer. The special train left in the evening for the North, and while the Charleston people felt that they had been greatly benefited in many ways by the visit of the league, we Oregonians feel that our state received favorable consideration in several ways, which will count for much good as time goes on.

Mr. and Mrs. B. S. Pague gave a reception on Thursday evening to Oregon friends. Mr. and Mrs. Pague, with Master Don, are delightfully situated in a historical old mansion, the home of the Sieglings, a very interesting family of high standing. Last Sunday a party of Oregonians visited the old cemeteries of the city one walked among graves of those buried here about 200 years ago. One grave stone was the head board of an old oak bedstead. Many of these old graves are right in people's front yards. After making a tour of the city of the dead we made our way to the Country Club. From the road, we pass on toward the Plantation Mansion, built over 100 years ago. On both sides of the road leading to the house are live oaks planted 150 years ago. The branches of these trees form a natural roofing, extending over several acres. A fitting background is the house with its large verandas, old-fashioned windows and all that is colonial. The sun was just sinking in the west as we left for the city, after having been entertained at this home. This was grand, but after all, there is no place like Oregon, where everything is life and push, and where people are not living in the past, but are daily presented with possibilities and opportunities which appeal to our better ambitions, and makes life worth the living. E. T. W.

RECEPTION TO CONGRESS.

Mrs. Payne Assisted Mrs. Roosevelt in Receiving for the First Time.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—President and Mrs. Roosevelt's reception in honor of Congress took place at the White House tonight. There was a large attendance, including the Cabinet and representatives of other branches of the public service and of the diplomatic corps. Mrs. Payne, wife of Postmaster-General Payne, assisted Mrs. Roosevelt in receiving for the first time, the other Cabinet ladies in line being Mrs. Root, Mrs. Knox, Mrs. Hitchcock and Miss Wilson. Mrs. Roosevelt's dress was of white lace over blue silk, with a pink ribbon caught with roses. She carried a large bunch of La France roses. Others invited to places in the blue-room with the receiving party were Miss Jones, a niece of Postmaster-General Payne; Whitelaw Reid and Mrs. Reid, Mrs. Richard Olney, Mrs. T. F. Bayard, Senator and Mrs. Depew, St. Clair McKelway and Mrs. Logan. The Engineer Band and the Marine Band played a number of popular airs.

The floral decoration were on the usual elaborate scale, and very attractive, especially in the east-room. Azaleas of variegated colors and crotons of many varieties were banked on the mantels. Smilax was entwined around the chandeliers and the recesses and nooks were filled with foliage of many kinds.

Wright Mining Case Settled.

HELENA, Mont., Jan. 23.—In the United States Court today Judge Knowles made an order dismissing the suit of A. S. Wright against the Central Montana Mines Company and discharging the receiver. The order was the result of an agreement between the litigants. The mines of the company are situated in Fergus County, this state, have a net output of $30,000 a month and are valued at $1,000,000. Last Summer the stockholders disagreed and a receiver was appointed. C. C. Bragg, of Cincinnati, president of the company, and the largest stockholder, took the books of the company, and then the receiver was appointed. Bragg has sold all of his interest, and C. S. Taylor, of St. Paul, has been elected president of the company and George M. Nelson, of St. Paul, secretary. P. Shiffman and Charles W. Ames, of St. Paul, have been elected directors.

BRUTAL ST. LOUIS MURDER

MILLIONAIRE ATTACKED IN A DISREPUTABLE BATHHOUSE.

His Slayer Supposed to Be a Negro Attendant, Who Crushed in His Skull With a Hammer.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 23.—A. Dean Cooper, several times a millionaire, and one of the best-known business men in St. Louis, was found early this morning dying on a cot in the Vista Turkish bath-house, his head crushed in by a blow from a heavy hammer. He expired without giving utterance to any word that might shed light on the identity of his slayers, and the police find themselves confronted with the most complete mystery they have ever had to deal with.

A negro attendant, long known as a faithful servant of Cooper, and his constant companion, except for a few brief minutes at the time he was struck down, is the only person the detectives have found from whom to extract the story of what passed behind the walls of the big bathing resort, and he tells a tale of pretty women and well-dressed men, of a ragged messenger boy and a mysterious note, of ribald jest and noisy merriment, all to the accompaniment of much liquor. Then the place lapsed back to the silence of the dead of night, and he came upon his master, breathing his last.

The Vista bath-house was the property of the millionaire, and the frequenters of the place assert that he was his own best customer, and that most of those who came there did so to join him in his peculiar form of pleasure.

Cooper lived at 3173 Washington boulevard, and he left there at 8 o'clock Wednesday evening, his wife and son understanding that he was going to the Vista, though he told them nothing of his plans for the night. From the moment he closed the house door on himself the police have nothing to show of his movements except the word of the negro servant, William Strother.

A diamond ring valued at $1500 and a diamond pin worn by Cooper when he entered the bath, were found in the basement of the bathhouse this morning. They had been concealed under the flooring in a crevice about the top of a joist. A sledge hammer bearing fresh blood stains was found in the basement soon after the police had been summoned to the scene of the assault. The hammer was one which is used in the basement for breaking up coal.

Strother told the police at the time of the arrest that two women and a man had called to see Mr. Cooper, who was proprietor of the place, shortly after 11 o'clock last night. They came in a carriage and were preceded by a boy with a note. The colored man said that he had admitted them to the cooling room and had returned to the basement. He did not know, he said, when they departed. Strother also said that two colored women, Josie Houston and Florence Banks, had visited him in the basement earlier last night.

Erastus Fountain, janitor of the Vista Block, says that the two women were in Strother's company at 9:30 o'clock when he made his last visit to the premises. The police say that there is no other evidence than Strother's statement to prove the visit of two women and a man to the bath.

A few minutes after midnight Theodore Cooper, known as "Tod" Cooper, son of A. Dean Cooper, answered the doorbell at the family residence, 3713 Washington Boulevard. Strother was at the door.

"Your father's been hurt," said the negro to young Cooper. "He's over at the bathhouse."

Without stopping to question the man closely Cooper hurried to the Vista Block. In the cooling-room of the bathhouse, on a cot in the middle of the long compartment, he found his father covered with a sheet. Doctors were immediately called and the police notified. The latter made an investigation and discovered the blood-stained hammer. Young Cooper told the police that the ring usually worn by his father was missing and they made another search for the ring and pin in the cellar, which was successful.

For some time the physicians worked over Mr. Cooper, who did not regain consciousness. They decided to perform an operation and remove the pieces of bone from the jagged wound in the skull that were pressing on the injured man's brain. This was successfully performed, but Mr. Cooper did not regain consciousness, passing away about 10 o'clock this morning, surrounded by members of his family.

Strother stoutly maintains his innocence. Fountain, the janitor, was [illegible] to the police station, but was released after telling about the presence of the two colored women in the bathhouse when he left.

"Tod" Cooper stated to the police that his father had practically closed a deal for the sale of the bathhouse property, and that the transfer was to have been made today, but did not state the name of the prospective purchasers.

Josie Houston, aged 26, and Florence Banks, aged 36, the latter married, both colored, are held at the Dayton-Street Police Station, where they are being questioned by the police.

Developments in connection with the murder, as the day progressed, were sensational in the extreme. It became known that Strother was in need of money, $500 or more, to reclaim his home from mortgage sale. Strother, however, meets this with the statement that Mr. Cooper, whom he had known and served for a long time, had promised to save his home for him. He also asserts that Mr. Cooper had promised him that in the event of the sale of the bathhouse, he (Strother) should be taken care of, either by being retained in his position, or by being given another. Questioned as to why Mr. Cooper should thus make provision for him, the negro told a startling story of the alleged true character of the place of which he had been the trusted custodian, and the story was in some degree corroborated by a statement from the police that they had been making secret investigation and were going to raid and close up the place. Strother stoutly maintained his innocence, but the police are entirely confident that they have the right man in custody.

MURDERS BY A SCOUT.

Tom Horn, the Indian Fighter, Has a Bad Reputation.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Jan. 23.—Tom Horn, the scout, Indian fighter and stock detective, who was arrested 10 days ago, charged with the murder of William E. Nickell, son of an Iron Mountain rancher, who was assassinated last July near his father's place, was given a preliminary hearing today, and held for trial in the District Court without bonds, on the charge of murder in the first degree. The testimony of the prosecution was of the most sensational nature. Deputy United States Marshal Lafors, Deputy Sheriff Snow and Mr. Onhuaus testifying that they heard Horn confess that he killed the boy, as well as Ranchman William Powell and Charles Lewis, who were assassinated near Iron Mountain eight years ago. Lafors engaged Horn in conversation at the former's office a week ago. Horn told him, the witness said, how the crimes were committed, the amount of money he received for the jobs, etc.

Chester Griswold.

NEW YORK, Jan. 23.—Chester Griswold, president of the Crown Point Iron Company, and vice-president of several other concerns, died here today after a few hours' illness. He was born in 1844. His father, John A. Griswold, was one of the builders of Ericsson's Monitor.

Killed by His Brother.

CHICAGO, Jan. 23.—Robert McEttridge, a wealthy ice dealer, who was shot last night by his brother William as the result of a business feud, died tonight.