

SENATE HAS HOT DEBATE ON POSTAL FRAUDS.

INQUIRY IS AGAIN URGED CLAY SAYS VINDICATE OR INDICT EX-FIRST ASSISTANT

BRISTOW REPORT IS QUOTED

GEORGIAN DECLARES THE PROOF IS CONVINCING - LODGE, TELLER AND SPOONER JOIN IN DISCUSSION AND THEN IT GOES OVER.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.-Alleged irregularities in the Postoffice Department constituted the only theme in the Senate today. The question came up on motion first made by Lodge, and afterward by Penrose to refer the Carmack resolution looking to a Senatorial investigation of the Postoffice Department to the committee on postoffices and post roads.

The Democratic Senators resisted the motion, and contended that the country would not be satisfied with an investigation of a department by the department itself. The debate continued for almost five hours and was extremely spirited from start to finish. Further consideration of the subject was deferred until Friday.

When the Senate met today Morgan's resolution directing the Postmaster-General to send to the Senate the papers connected with the Postoffice Department irregularities, and providing for a Senatorial investigation, was taken up and Lodge moved its reference to the committee on postoffices. Carmack resisted this motion, declaring that if departmental irregularities were to be investigated only by the department itself, it would not be a stench in the nostrils of the people.

The only safeguard was in Congressional investigation, he said. Lodge expressed the opinion that the Postoffice Department would make a thorough investigation, but contended that the legislative branch should retain the right to make an inquiry.

Clay expressed surprise that there should be opposition to the resolution, and he called attention to the declaration by Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General Bristow and Counselors Bonaparte and Conrad that the investigation should be carried further. He declared that the Bristow report "demonstrates the absolute guilt of the ex-First Assistant Postmaster-General, Mr. Heath. He (Bristow) says himself that this leading high official was guilty and the proof overwhelming. If this is true, Heath should have been indicted, and I will do Mr. Bristow the credit to say that his report shows that the frauds of the Postoffice Department originated in Heath's office. If so, he must have had cognizance of them. Then why should the subordinate in that office be indicted and the principal be allowed to escape?"

Clay quoted extracts from the Bristow report to substantiate his argument. "It," he said, "this report speaks the truth, Perry S. Heath originated all the frauds in his office."

"It," he continued, "the report is not correct, the facts should be known, and Mr. Heath vindicated. If the charges are well-founded, Mr. Heath should be indicted and punished."

Clay declared his conviction, from a thorough reading of the Bristow report, that Mr. Bristow had been satisfied beyond a doubt that the guiltiest party of all was the retired First Assistant Postmaster-General, yet he had never been indicted or arrested.

"In the interest of fair play, in the interest of justice, in the interest of good government and clean administration," he said, "there should be an inquiry, and I am surprised that my friend, Mr. Heath from Massachusetts (Lodge), should object."

Clay also declared that the President reflected seriously upon Mr. Heath, and desired the retirement of Mr. Heath from the secretaryship of the Republican National Committee.

Penrose, chairman of the committee on postoffices and postroads, expressed his wish that there should be an investigation, but added that, inasmuch as there was disagreement as to the phraseology, he preferred to have the entire question referred to the committee on postoffices, pledging himself to call an early meeting for the purpose of taking the question up.

Teller said that if for no other reason than that criminal charges were made against Senators and members of the House of Representatives, an investigation should be made. Lodge spoke of the newspaper reports that a lease of the postoffice building was owned by a United States Senator, and also quoted the press reports saying the Postoffice Department had explained that the lease in this case had been made because the Senator's building could be secured at a lower price than any other.

"That," he said, "is most astounding. When did the Postmaster-General or the President, for that matter, get the right to suspend the statute forbidding this practice?"

Foraker Sets Teller Right. Foraker interrupted Teller to say it was his understanding that the lease of the building under consideration had been made before the property had come into the possession of the Senator who now owns it, that the Senator did not know the name when he acquired the building, and that he had been trying to get rid of it since he had made the discovery.

"If that is true," responded Teller, "the representations to which I have referred are a gross slander."

Foraker admitted the correctness of this inference.

Carmack made a general plea for a Senatorial inquiry, and quoted the newspaper report to the effect that the Postmaster-General had not been in sympathy with the Postoffice Department inquiry when undertaken, and that he had pronounced the Tulloch charges to be "hot air."

This statement aroused Spooner, who said the charge did great injustice to the Postmaster-General. So far as the Bristow inquiry was concerned, Payne had been in thorough sympathy with it, and had placed the entire machinery of the department at the command of the official who had made this most remorseless inquiry.

Replying, Carmack disclaimed any intention to charge Payne with complicity in the Postoffice Department irregularities, and said the suggestion was that

of indifference to the wrong, and the natural inference was that if the inquiry had been left to him, there would have been none.

"In other words," said Spooner, "the charge is that he had no sympathy with the wrong, but with the wrongdoers." "I did not say that," replied Carmack. "Practically," commented Spooner, "sententiously."

"Nor even practically that," Carmack insisted.

Lodge said that Congressional investigation for the purpose of discovering crime are practically worthless. He called attention to the Congressional inquiries into the official conduct of Mr. Machen when he was Superintendent of Free Delivery.

"Both the Senate and House investigated Machen," he said, "at the very time when he was engaged in the practices for which he was indicted as a result of the department inquiry, and both cleared him of the charges upon which the inquiry was predicated."

Carmack explicitly denied any intention on his part to reflect on the Postmaster-General, but contended all that had been brought out emphasized the necessity for investigation.

Gorman Explains His Purpose. Gorman said he was willing to have all the resolutions calling for investigation of the Postoffice Department referred to the committee on postoffices and post roads, as he had received assurance from the chairman that prompt action would be taken.

In this connection, however, he said he wanted to call attention to the fact that all of the debate on this subject had but emphasized the necessity of an investigation of the Postoffice Department. He said he had no desire to investigate any particular officer; that he believed the investigation should be much broader, that it should include all who are corrupt themselves, have disclosed the corruption of others.

"My purpose," he added, "is not so much to expose this corruption as by the action of Congress in making protective laws to eliminate the chance of such corruption in the future in the Postoffice Department."

Spooner asked if Gorman would be willing to supplement that suggestion by calling on Congress for a thorough investigation of all departments at stated periods.

Not a Party Matter. Gorman answered that he would be willing, but for the present he was content to do what the question in hand. Continuing, he declared the corruption was not a party matter; that the present Postmaster-General could not have been responsible for the state of affairs in his department, and that the corruption had entered upon his duties at the head of the department. He declared it had been the policy of the President to ignore his Cabinet members in this matter, and give the credit for the measures in the Postoffice Department to M. G. Seckendorf and William Allen White, newspapermen of party.

Gorman expressed a willingness to do justice to the President "in this time of trouble in his official household," but said he could not understand why the Republicans in the Senate had persistently refused to give the matter official information concerning the department. He declared that the determination to ignore the wishes of the minority had been manifested at this session of the Senate, and he had been a member of the Senate. He called attention to the resolutions introduced by himself, Carmack and Penrose, and to the Bristow reports of the postoffice investigation, and declared that every effort to get this information had been thwarted by the Republicans.

Denunciation by Lodge. A severe denunciation of the charge of suppression of information was made by Lodge, who said he was thoroughly tired of the old worn-out story of suppression of information, and over again by Senators on the other side of the chamber. He said it is quite true that the Republicans had many a time in the past, but he was not a member of the Senate, and he wanted to inform the other side that they were thoroughly responsible for their conduct of affairs, and as they were responsible, they proposed to conduct their affairs in their own way. Continuing, he said:

"We are not afraid of daylight; we are not afraid of the Senator from Maryland; and, least of all, we are not afraid of that old time-worn story of suppression of public information."

Teller Arraigns Lodge. Teller arraigned Lodge for the statement that the Republicans were responsible for the Government by saying he wanted to pose his caveat on the board that the Republican caucus would do business for the Senate. Spooner denied the Republicans had a caucus. Teller said that perhaps it was merely that the Republicans had a caucus, and he was responsible for the sold for offered by the Republicans in the case of the Cuban bill.

Spooner wanted to know if the Democrats who voted for the Cuban bill were controlled by the Republicans, and Teller answered that the Democrats were divided according to their individual beliefs.

Spooner said that Republican caucuses do not bind the consciences of Senators any more than they did when Teller was a member of that party. The duty of Senators, Spooner contended, was to serve the interests of the whole country, and for himself he would not consent to hold a seat in the Senate if he were to be controlled by others.

Speaks of Duty of Senators. Teller recalled that Spooner had cast many independent votes, but he thought that in late years there had been a growing tendency on the Republican side of the chamber to consolidate. He spoke of the duty of Senators to act in accordance with their own convictions, when Burton interrupted him to ask if he had preference to the recent decision of the Democratic caucus for party solidarity on questions coming before the Senate.

Teller replied by saying that, personally, he knew nothing of such a conclusion. "I do know this, however," he said, "that while I sat on the Republican side of this chamber, I never yielded my personal judgment to a majority, and I never expect to do so, so long as I sit here."

An agreement was reached to postpone further discussion of the subject until Friday next, and at 2:30 the Senate adjourned.

INSPECTORS SEEKING HEATH.

Two Weeks Spent in Salt Lake in Endeavor to Subpena Him.

SALT LAKE, Jan. 6.-The Desert News today says that Government investigators, including James H. Bennett, of Cheyenne, have been in the city for two weeks, in an endeavor to subpena Ex-First Assistant Postmaster-General Perry S. Heath, but have not yet succeeded in securing his appearance. It is stated that Salt Lake City about Monday, Mr. Beach had not been advised whether any attempts have been made to serve the subpoena.

Mr. Beach also understood that a subpoena had been issued on behalf of the Government for Mr. Heath's presence in connection with the trial of ex-Representative Driggs, begun in Brooklyn today.

BLISS RILES HANNA Says Senator Would Have Done as He Did in Cuba.

COLLOQUY OVER WOOD GIFT

General Told Senate Committee a Clerk, and Not Military Governor, Asked its Dispatch Through Customs Be Hastened.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.-The Associated Press has secured a copy of the testimony given by Brigadier-General Tawker, M. Bliss, United States Army, when he was recalled before the Senate committee on military affairs to give evidence in the Wood gift investigation, concerning the admission of the Jai Alai gift free of duty, about which a controversy has arisen.

General Bliss was recalled at the request of Senator Hanna, who asked whether the silver service given to General Wood in 1902, at the time of his passage through the custom house, was the property of an officer in the United States Army. General Bliss answered that he understood it so; that he had received information on the second day before leaving Havana that a package would arrive there from New York the next day for General Wood, and that it would have to be returned on the steamer on which the baggage of the officers and men were placed. A request had been made that the package should be hastened in its passage through the Custom House.

Senator Hanna inquired from whom the information came and was told by General Bliss that it came by telephone from the Clerk's office at the palace of the Governor-General. General Bliss said he did not know whether the package was addressed to General Wood, but was told it was for him; that when he learned a package would be received for the Military Governor he had endeavored to facilitate its passage through the Custom House.

Senator Foraker asked if General Wood had anything to do with the order. The witness replied: "Not in the least."

"I thought you said the order came to you from the palace?" remarked Senator Hanna.

General Bliss repeated that he had received the message from a clerk in his office, who had received it over the telephone from the palace. Senator Hanna inquired:

"And with whom would that originate?"

General Bliss said it was merely a message such as he receives many times a day from persons desiring to facilitate the passage of articles through the Custom House.

Senator Hanna asked if he was to understand that a telephone message purporting to come from the palace would be obeyed. The answer was in the negative. The Senator then asked for an explanation and General Bliss said:

"If any one sent a message that a package would be received for the Military Governor, and I had a number of trusted employees and I would say: 'If a package arrives, do not delay, but dispatch that.' That is what I did, and what you would have done and what any sensible man would do under the circumstances. I stopped the entire business of the Custom House."

Senator Hanna-I do not know whether I would. I do not think that you have any justification for putting me in that position.

General Bliss-Any one would have to do that way.

Senator Hanna-I have had some experience in business. I do not think I would do it on the say-so of a clerk and on the orders of a clerk, as you say that order came from the palace.

General Bliss again insisted he had not received an order after some further colloquy. Senator Foraker remarked: "He says that it was not an order."

Senator Scott asked what course General Bliss would have taken if he had learned that the silver service was not the property of General Wood, but the property of a firm in the United States, which was sending it down there to be submitted as to whether it was to be accepted and bought.

General Bliss answered it would not have been admitted free of duty.

In explanation of his act in admitting the silver service free of duty, General Bliss said:

"I have no hesitation in saying that if I had been informed there was a present coming for the Military Governor under the circumstances, I would not have made myself obnoxious to the Cuban people by raising any little points about the handling of the package in the Custom House."

Canal Treaty is Considered. Morgan Attacks Right of Panama to Surrender Title. WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.-The Senate committee on foreign relations today began consideration of the Panama Canal treaty. The time was occupied principally by Senator Morgan, in a discussion of the last clause of the treaty, which relates to the concessionary contract with Lucien N. B. Wyse, now owned by the new Panama Canal Company, and which, under the treaty, gives absolute title to the United States, so far as the Republic of Panama is concerned.

Senator Morgan attacked this right of Panama to surrender title. The committee will meet again tomorrow, and probably every day for a week or more, before the treaty can be reported to the Senate. No action was taken in regard to the nomination of William Buchanan to be Minister to Panama, which was held up, after being confirmed, by a motion of Senator Morgan to reconsider. When the treaty was called up, Senator Morgan requested that consideration be postponed for one week in order to give him an opportunity to prepare his objections. Republican members of the committee opposed this motion, and it was rejected. All of the Democratic members of the committee except Senator McCrea supported Senator Morgan.

HAWAIIAN BILL UP IN HOUSE. Electric Lighting Measure Meets Opposition and is Referred. WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.-The only measure considered in the House today was a bill introduced by the Delegate from Hawaii to ratify an act of the Hawaiian Legislature authorizing the manufacture and distribution of electric light and power on the Island of Oahu, Territory of Hawaii. Owing to objections made to the bill in the form presented, it was recommitted to the committee on territories.

When the House convened today Robinson (Dem., Ind.) from the committee on territories, called up the bill.

Payne (N. Y.) asked why a franchise was given for 25 years instead of 10. Hill (Conn.) said it gave too much power to a corporation.

THE "DIFFERENT STORE"

MAIL ORDERS RECEIVE OUR PROMPT ATTENTION

All orders received through our Mail Order Dept.—the largest on the Pacific Coast—will be filled at CLEARANCE SALE PRICES.

asks less for its goods the year 'round. THIS IS THAT STORE. We own our goods for less money than any other house in all the Northwest, through right buying. We sell our goods for less every day in the year than any competitor can—and live—because they were bought right, by skilled, trained, seasoned buyers—the best in America. Hence our success. This is why it is our Clearance Sales lead the van—why it is that OUR PUBLIC BUYS BEST AT THIS RELIABLE "OLD HOMESTEAD" STORE.

EVERY ARTICLE IN THE HOUSE REDUCED TO FIGURES LOWER THAN QUOTED ELSEWHERE IN PORTLAND ON EQUAL QUALITY MERCHANDISE. (Contract goods alone exempt from reduction.) These few bargain straws mentioned below show the trend of the trade winds that are blowing profits and values all to you this month. Our advice is—given against our own real interests—STOCK UP THE HOME AND BUY FOR PERSONAL USE AND WEAR FOR A YEAR TO COME!

Among the Great Sales Are THE ENFORCED ALTERATION SALE OF GOOD SHOES. Alteration Sale of Women's Garments of every description. Necessary before breaking through into the new Annex, which will be ready for Spring business. Sensational Clearance Sale of New Silks and Dress Goods.

ORIENTAL DRAPERIES

For Mantels, Couch Covers, Portieres, etc., in Hozara, Phool Karries, \$2.75 values, for, pr. \$1.85. Silk embroidered, \$13.50 values at, ea. \$7.75. \$17.50 values at, each. \$10.75.

WONDERFUL 1/2 PRICE EMBROIDERY SALE

15c values for, yard. 7 1/2c. 20c values for, yard. 10c. 25c values for, yard. 12 1/2c. 35c values for, yard. 17 1/2c. 50c values for, yard. 25c. 60c values for, yard. 30c. 75c values for, yard. 37 1/2c. \$1.00 values at, yard. 50c. \$1.25 values at, yard. 62 1/2c.

CLEARANCE SALE IN THE ART SHOP

Very pretty and attractive Cushion Covers, tinted, applique and finished borders, plain back to match material, heavy eoru Budin linen, regular price \$2.25; Clearance special at \$1.29.

MILLINERY SPECIAL

We'll have a larger, brighter, better than ever Millinery Saloon next season in the new part of the house, under the management of one of the best-known managers among the "Big Stores" of the East. He's on the way now. Help us clean house before he gets here—MILLINERY OF ANY SORT AT YOUR OWN PRICE NOW, if you're anyways reasonable.

Bed Sets--Bargains

Fourth Floor. Regular \$136.00 Sets for \$7.25. Regular \$160.00 Sets for \$9.00. Regular \$18.00 Sets for \$9.50. Regular \$19.50 Sets for \$11.00. Regular \$25.00 Sets for \$15.00.

OLDS, WORTMAN & KING The Home of Quality and Worth

A VERY PHILOSOPHIC AMERICAN ONCE SAID:

"It never pays to argue against a success." Axioms must be short and devoid of frills—the fuller text would need to contain the qualification: "If the success is based on right." Quantity buying and the power of economical gathering and wide distribution make stores possible, else every man might be his own merchant and send hither and yon for what he wanted.

THIS STORE DOES THE BEST FOR YOU THE YEAR THROUGH. And at this January Clearance time our success is based upon RIGHT BUYING OF RIGHT MERCHANDISE AT RIGHT PRICES AT THE RIGHT TIME. Suppose of two stores, both give the same discount off regular prices at these Clearance Sales, or both ask the same per cent above cost price, where-in lies the advantage? Answer—With the store that buys right, or, through better knowledge of the markets owns its goods for less than its competitor, on the one hand; on the other, with the store that

asks less for its goods the year 'round. THIS IS THAT STORE. We sell our goods for less every day in the year than any competitor can—and live—because they were bought right, by skilled, trained, seasoned buyers—the best in America. Hence our success. This is why it is our Clearance Sales lead the van—why it is that OUR PUBLIC BUYS BEST AT THIS RELIABLE "OLD HOMESTEAD" STORE.

EVERY ARTICLE IN THE HOUSE REDUCED TO FIGURES LOWER THAN QUOTED ELSEWHERE IN PORTLAND ON EQUAL QUALITY MERCHANDISE. (Contract goods alone exempt from reduction.) These few bargain straws mentioned below show the trend of the trade winds that are blowing profits and values all to you this month. Our advice is—given against our own real interests—STOCK UP THE HOME AND BUY FOR PERSONAL USE AND WEAR FOR A YEAR TO COME!

Ribbon Bargain Special

Thousands of miles of new, pretty ribbons at about half their usual price. Satin Taffetas and some double-faced Satin Ribbons, 4 and 4 1/2 inches wide, all pure silk and grand 50c values—Special at, yard. 29c.

Whitney Baby Carriages Reduced Like This:

Nicely upholstered in tapestry, with parsons, patent automatic anti-friction wheel-fasteners and foot-brake, nutless axle and all latest, modern-improvements. \$13.50 Carriages for \$8.90. \$15.00 Carriages for \$9.75. \$15.75 Carriages for \$10.50. \$16.50 Carriages for \$11.00. \$18.50 Carriages for \$12.50.

Two Great Silk Specials

Annex—First Floor. Extra Special Clearance Sale Black Taffeta—19 inches wide, very strong and durable and high finish—our regular 85c value; Special Clearance price \$69c. 27 inches wide heavy, durable black Silk Taffeta, with high, rich finish, splendid for drop skirts and linings, our regular \$1.25 value; Special Clearance price. 96c.

GLOVE SPECIALS

Ladies' \$2.50 Evening Gloves, \$1.25. A splendid Glove Bargain—Our 16-button length undressed suede Kid Gloves, all in evening shades of dainty pink, blue, nile, cardinal and mauve; actual \$2.50 values, on sale at, the pair. \$1.25.

LADIES' \$2.50 EVENING GLOVES, \$1.25

A splendid Glove Bargain—Our 16-button length undressed suede Kid Gloves, all in evening shades of dainty pink, blue, nile, cardinal and mauve; actual \$2.50 values, on sale at, the pair. \$1.25.

FUNSTON IS SARCASTIC.

Reports of Destitution in Alaska Do Not Appeal to Him. WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.-Reports of great destitution and threatened starvation among the inhabitants of Fairbanks, Alaska, having reached the War Department through the Department of the Interior, Major of that place, addressed to Senator Nelson, General Funston, commanding the Department of the Columbia, was directed to make an investigation, and to take such steps as would conserve the public peace while affording relief. The Mayor specially requested that staple supplies be not given, but sold to these people from supplies on hand at Fort Gibson.

Oppose Grain-Inspection Bill.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.-Representatives of 30 of the 32 grain exchanges of the country met here today to consider a proposed-protest against the bill introduced in the United States Senate by Senator McCumber, of North Dakota, to provide for the National inspection of grain. A resolution was adopted unanimously expressing the opinion that any measure granting the inspection of grain would be disturbing existing conditions and be injurious to the best interests of the producers, dealers and foreign buyers, and declaring that "the inspection of grain by the National Government at terminal markets would be detrimental to the agricultural interests and the grain trade of the country."

Committee on Order of Business.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.-Senator Allison, chairman of the Republican caucus, today announced the following committee on order of business for 1904: Allison, Hale, Aldrich, Culom, Lodge, Perkins, Clark (Wyo.), Eklus, Spooner, Hanna, Beveridge.

Wanted to Abolish Office.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.-Secretary Hitchcock, of the Interior Department, has recommended to the President that the office of Railroad Commissioner, held by the late General James Longstreet, be abolished.

BENSON'S CASE IS CALLED.

Timberman Fails to Respond, as He is Under Arrest in New York. WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.-The case of John A. Benson, the wealthy San Francisco real estate operator, arrested here several weeks ago for alleged bribery of Government employees, in connection with public land matters, was called before United States Commissioner Taylor today. Assistant Attorney-General Fugh, representing the Government, and former Justice Cole, of the District Supreme Court, appeared as Benson's counsel. The Government asked for the forfeiture of the \$2000 bond given by Benson, in view of his nonappearance today. The defense rested this contention, pointing out that under an indictment reported by the Grand Jury here some days ago, Benson was re-arrested in New York, and is awaiting a hearing there. Judge Cole asked for time to make arguments on this point, and Commissioner Taylor continued the case until next Saturday.



THURSDAY



Hosiery and Underwear Clearance

EXTRA BARGAIN SPECIALS First Floor—Center Aisle.

Ladies' Stuttgarter high-grade imported Vests and Pants, white and silver gray, long sleeve vests, ankle length French band pants; \$1.50 values; Clearance Special. \$1.25.

Ladies' Merode Merino Vests, Pants and Tights, white and silver gray; \$1.00 values; special, each. \$85c.

Ladies' Swiss Ribbed White and Natural Merino Vests and Pants, unshrinkable, splendid wearing garments; \$1.00 values; Clearance Special, each. 72c.

Extra specials on the Ladies' and Children's Bargain Counter—Ladies' 25c Cotton Vests and Pants, each. 18c.

Ladies' 35c Cotton Vests and Pants, each. 23c.

Ladies' 50c Cotton Union Suits, each. 38c.

Ladies' 75c Cotton Union Suits, each. 49c.

Ladies' \$1.50 Merino Union Suits, each. \$1.19.

Ladies' 65c Merino Vests; big value, each. 40c.

Ladies' \$1.75 fine Cashmere White and Silver Vests and Pants. \$1.25.

Ladies' \$1.00 Merino Natural Vests, each. 68c.

Ladies' 75c Merino Natural Vests, each. 52c.

Ladies' fine ribbed, heavy flesh color Lisle Union Suits; \$3.50 quality, suit. \$2.50.

Ladies' 25c Black Cotton Hose, O. K. brand. 18c.

Children's Black Wool Hose, seamless; sizes 6 to 10; values to 40c; all sizes, pair. 12 1/2c.

Misses' White Merino Union Suits, Winter weight; 85c to 1.35; half price per suit.

Children's White Flat Woven Merino Vests and Pants; values 50c to 85c; one-half price per garment.