

STEVENS AGAINST CONTRACT PLAN

Explanation Is Given of Delay in Action on Olliver's Bid.

WANTS TO DO IT HIMSELF

Believes Government Can Do Work Better Directly and Will Resign If Contract Is Let—Action Postponed Two Weeks.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—(Special.)—Chief Engineer John F. Stevens wants to dig the Panama Canal, and if he cannot dig the big ditch without the medium of a contractor, there is likely to be another vacancy at the head of affairs on the isthmus. This is understood to be the secret of the mysterious holding up of the award of the Panama Canal contract that has excited interest and curiosity for the last two weeks.

Everybody has been wondering why the administration has been delaying action on the Olliver bid for digging the canal. One theory has been that it was due to a fight between rival financial interests, those represented by the contractors under the Olliver firm being credited with the efforts to throw out the lower bidder and take the prize. There have been tangles regarding Mr. Olliver's partners. Finally a positive decision from President Roosevelt, Secretary of War Taft and Chairman Spooner, of the Canal Commission, has been postponed for two weeks longer, ostensibly to complete a full examination of the Olliver bid, but in reality, it is believed, to solve the problem presented by Mr. Stevens' position.

One year ago Mr. Stevens was an enthusiastic advocate of the contract idea of canal construction, and it was doubtless his opinion that inclined the President to take the same view. Now, it is understood, he has undergone a change of heart, and, after thorough consideration of the revised plans for digging the canal, is of the opinion that the work will be expedited greatly if the Government assume full control of the actual details. Under executive Government direction, Mr. Stevens believes, the canal will be open to the commerce of the world within ten years.

An effort has been made to get Mr. Stevens to change his mind, but he has continued obdurate, and the indications are that the administration will accede to his request and that the construction will be continued by the Government. This information caused some surprise, as Mr. Stevens testified before the Senate canal committee that he favored building the canal by contract.

Following a conference of the President with Secretary Taft, Secretary Loeb gave out a formal statement that "the Secretary of War and the Canal Commission will thoroughly examine into the qualifications, experience and achievements of Mr. Olliver and his associates and into the responsibility of the surties." Mr. Taft's letter informed Mr. Olliver that the President was very much inclined to give the contract to Mr. Olliver and his associates, but that he would not surrender his right to reject all bids.

CALLS BOOKER SENATOR

FORAKER TAKES FLING AT NEGRO LEADER'S ACTIVITY.

Amusing Episode of Brownsville Inquiry—Discharged Soldiers Say Townsman Did Shooting.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Five witnesses were examined today in the Brownsville inquiry by the Senate committee on military. All were members of the discharged battalion of negro soldiers except ex-Sergeant Luther Thornton, of Company B. He testified that, when aroused by the firing on the night of August 13, he was under the impression that the barracks were being fired upon by people of the town.

The next witness called for by Senator Foraker was Winter Washington, and Senator Overman asked if he had said Booker Washington. "No," said Mr. Foraker. "Booker Washington is too busy attending to his Senatorial duties to come here." He referred to the interest of Booker T. Washington in the question of having a negro appointed to a Federal position in Ohio, patronage which has been regarded as belonging to the Senators from Ohio.

Washington's idea of the Brownsville affair was that "Mexican greasers" and "Texas cowboys" had done the shooting in order to make trouble for the negro soldiers.

HOUSE PASSES HARBOR BILL

Adds Provision for Survey of Missouri River Channel.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—The House today completed and passed the river and harbor appropriation bill, carrying more than \$60,000,000, with sundry amendments, 21 of which were suggested by the chairman of the committee, Burton. Among the important amendments adopted were: For the maintenance and continuing of the improvement of the Chicago River, \$200,000, being an increase of \$50,000. A survey of the Missouri river channel was authorized, from its mouth to Sioux City. A bill amending the naval appropriation bill was taken up and made the continuing order.

MAKE OPPONENTS RESPONSIBLE

Democratic Senators Wash Hands of Santo Domingo Treaty.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Democratic Senate leaders decided today that the Republican leaders must take the entire responsibility, if a treaty with Santo Domingo containing the present financial relations is ratified.

INDIANS MUST HOLD LAND

Senate Rejects Provisions Recommended by Special Committee.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—The Indian appropriation bill received rough handling by the Senate today. The amendments of the committee, especially those suggested by the special committee which went to the Indian Territory last Summer to in-

vestigate conditions, were nearly all rejected on points of order. The provision which allowed full-blood Indians of the Indian Territory to sell their surplus land was defeated by a vote of 31 to 22, which leaves in force the provision of the law known as the McCumber amendment, prohibiting the alienation of such land for 25 years.

The Senate bill today was confined to the amendment allowing land alienation. Stone made the principal speech for the amendment and Spooner the principal argument against it.

May Retreat Before Blizzards.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—The Senate today passed a bill providing that no home-stead entry upon public land shall be canceled because of the failure of the entryman thereon to hereafter reside upon the land during the months of December, January, February and March. In computing the homestead proofs, no credit is to be given for the period of actual absence.

Would Repeal Statehood Law.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Representative Murphy today introduced a bill to repeal the admitting Oklahoma to statehood, on the ground that the constitutional convention of Oklahoma and Indian Territory had not met under the conditions of the joint statehood act.

District Attorney for Alaska.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—The President today sent to the Senate the nomination of John J. Boyce, of California, to be United States Attorney for Division No. 1 of Alaska.

SOONERS IN PEACE VALLEY

Valuable Claims Secured by Private Tip From Ottawa.

VICTORIA, B. C., Feb. 7.—Sooners, acting on pointers received from Ottawa, and who had just returned from Peace River Valley, granted to the Federal Government by British Columbia under the settlement act of 1884.

Residents of the Valley say that the stakers have received assurances that when the land is formally turned over their stakings would be respected.

MAKE ROOSEVELT MEMBER

North American Game Association Acts on His Application.

QUEBEC, Feb. 7.—At the annual meeting of the North American Fish and Game Association, held here today, an application for membership was received from President Roosevelt and favorably acted upon. The President drew the attention of the organization to the report that a herd of buffalo in a wild state had been seen in Alberta, Canada, and suggested that the provincial government see that this herd be given protection.

TO END THEATER NUISANCE

Manager Frohman Decides to Stop Ticket Speculation.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—Asserting that speculation in theater tickets had brought about much criticism and ill-feeling against the managers of theaters in New York City, Daniel Frohman today announced that a conference of the managers of many of the theaters in the city had decided to end the nuisance by allowing no speculation and discontinuing the sale of tickets to agents and managers of news stands in the more important hotels in Manhattan.

REVOLT IN ARGENTINE.

Rebels Are Reported to Have Defeated Government Forces.

THE DAY'S DEATH RECORD

Ex-Congressman B. W. Harris. BRIDGEPORT, Mass., Feb. 7.—Former Congressman Benjamin W. Harris died at his home here today, aged 82 years. He was known in Congress as the "father of the new Navy."

Isabelle Urquhart, Actress. ROCHESTER, N. Y., Feb. 7.—Isabelle Urquhart, the actress, died here today.

Beach Bill Lost in House.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 7.—(Special.)—The bill by Senator Beach, requiring the Governor to appoint on the Board of Textbook Commission at least two practical educators was defeated in the House this morning by a vote of 17 yeas, 29 nays, 4 absent. Speaker Davay led the opposition against the proposed change in the personnel of this board, and he was ably assisted by Newell and Campbell.

Those supporting the bill in the debate that preceded its defeat were Beveridge, McCue and Freeman.

"There is no demand whatever for this legislation," said Campbell, "other than from the teachers themselves. Not a word of complaint has been found with the work of the Commission. On the same grounds that the educators of the state demand representation on this commission it is just as reasonable to expect that when the proposed Railroad Commission is created, that at least two members thereof must be men engaged in or interested in the railroad business, because they are acquainted with the details of the railroad business. The law is right as it now stands, and should not be amended in this important particular."

Parker Backs Up Roosevelt.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—Alton B. Parker, addressing the Maryland Society here tonight, said he believed the President had the right to discharge the negro soldiers at Brownsville, and was justified in using that power. He condemned the interference of the legislative branch of the government and attributed its action in the matter to political motives.

Great Discovery in Egypt.

LONDON, Feb. 8.—The Times announces this morning the sensational discovery by Two Davis at Thebes of the mummy of the famous Egyptian Queen Teie.

Odd Muslinwear

Every odd piece we have in the entire stock goes on sale at just one-third less than the regular price. Drawers, corset covers, chemise, gowns and skirts, and if you can find what you want in the 1/3 assortment, you save.... 1/3

PORTLAND AGENTS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL PATTERNS Olds, Wortman & King Fifth St. Washington St. Sixth St.

Odd Lots Corsets Yes, odd lots, but they are the famous Royal Worcester Corsets. We want you to help us to free our stock from all short lots at once, and you are almost sure to find a model here that will suit you. Odd lots reduced one-third.... 1/3

197th Friday Economy Sale This week will be one that you will never forget. Prices slashed again. The Odd Lots Sale goes forward with a rush. All-week bargains augmented by these Timely Friday Specials.

Women's Ext. Size Union Suits

- WOMEN'S EXTRA SIZE MERODE COTTON UNION SUITS, medium weight, long sleeve, ankle length. Sizes 40-42-44, \$1.50 val. \$1.09 Special, garment.... \$1.09
WOMEN'S VESTS, Merode make, silk and cotton, low neck, sleeveless, hand finished, silk trimming, ankle and knee length tight to match. Vests in sizes 3, 4 and 5. Tights all sizes. Regular \$1.00 69c Special.... 69c
WOMEN'S LACE HOSE, imported black lace hose, assorted dyes, have spliced heel and double sole. 75c val. 48c Special, today.... 48c
WOMEN'S HOSE, black merized lisle, spliced heels, double sole, 50c val. 32c Special, today.... 32c
CHILDREN'S HOSE, broken lines of 15c and 20c black cotton hose, 10c Special.... 10c
CHILDREN'S HOSE, broken lot up to 25c pair. 12c Special, today.... 12c
MISSIE'S VESTS, white lisle, long sleeve, neatly trimmed, ankle length pants to match. 35c val. 18c Special.... 18c
BOYS' BLOUSE WAISTS, light shades, also white madras blouses. Regular 50c value; special, today.... 29c

Ten Hourly Shoe Specials

- From 8 to 9 A. M. SMALL GIRLS' SHOE—In button or lace; many styles in fancy and plain leathers; all have first-class soles and uppers, and are well made throughout; spring heels; sizes 5 to 8. Value to \$1.50 Same in small sizes, 1 to 6.... 49c
From 9 to 10 A. M. WOMEN'S WARM SLIPPERS—Made in the best grades of felt and of kid leather; black fur trimmed. The felt ones are trimmed with different colored fur, and fitted with leather or wood covered Cuban heels. No better felt goods than these are to be had. Regular value to \$2.50, now.... \$1.59 \$1.60 grades, now.... \$1.39 \$1.39 grades, now.... 89c
From 10 to 11 A. M. WOMEN'S SLIPPERS—Made in many styles; full 2000 pairs of every pattern and design imaginable—straps, bows, lace, ribbon ties, fitted with different height heels; all have hand-turned soles. We can assure you that you will have no trouble in finding something that will please you; all sizes, but not in each style. Value to \$3.50. Clearance \$1.39 Sale
From 11 to 12 A. M. PATENT KID DRESS SHOES—Made by Val Dutton-hofer & Sons. Have hand-turned sole, with and without tip. Most all have medium height Louis heels. The grade of shoes is splendid and will be a bargain; \$5 values.... \$2.19
From 12 to 1 P. M. MEN'S HIGHEST GRADE SHOES—Made in patent calf and kid leather, button or lace; last and styles only found in the very best grades. We shall include in this lot broken lines of as good shoes as can be made, in value to \$6.00. Sale \$3.89

65c Hat Pins 15c Each

Hatpins 15c Each—An assortment of pretty Hatpins, set with pretty peacock eyes, in gold-filled and gold-plated mountings; our reg. 65c values; special at, each.... 15c
Sterling Silver and Gold-Filled Scarfpins for 25c—A lot of pretty sterling silver and gold-filled Scarfpins, in a great variety of designs; some worth up to 85c; special this sale at only, each.... 25c
Pretty Gold-Plated Bar Pins, Special 5c Each—A line of Gold-Plated Bar Pins, in open-work and stone-set designs; worth to 15c; special today, at, each.... 5c
\$1.50 Sterling Silver Gum Boxes; Special for 75c—Sterling Silver Gum Boxes, for pocket use, to hold a regular-size package of gum; our regular \$1.50 values; closing them out at the special price of, each.... 75c

Specials from the China Store

- Decorated German China, gold-lined and decorations are pink flowers, specially priced like this:
4-Piece Tea Sets, sugar, creamer and spoon holder, regularly worth \$1.00 the set; special.... 60c
4-Piece Tea Set, regularly worth 75c. Special.... 45c
8-Inch Plates, in assorted colors, regularly worth \$5.00 the dozen. \$3.45 Special.... \$3.45
8-Inch Plates, worth \$2.75 the dozen. Special.... \$1.65
8-Inch Plates, with gold decorations, regularly \$3.00 the dozen; special for.... \$1.95
Haviland China, very special bargains in the following sets:
Salad Sets, of 7 pieces, that sell regularly for \$3.48 \$4.75, special.... \$3.48
Salad Sets, of 13 pieces, worth \$5.65 the set, for \$4.00 only
Only Meal Sets, of 13 pieces, regularly \$7.50; special at.... \$5.60
Coffee Sets, of 17 pieces, reg. \$9.60; special.... \$4.58
Soup Sets, of 14 pieces, regularly worth \$6.00 \$10.15; special.... \$6.00
Roast Sets, 15 pieces, worth \$11.45 regular; \$7.23 special, today.... \$7.23

Some Silks and Dress Goods Specials

- A lot of fine silk and wool colored dress goods, a splendid assortment of colorings and lengths, regardless of what the regular price was, today they sell for HALF REGULAR.
BLACK JAP SILK, 27 in. wide, worth \$1.00 the yard, for.... 78c
WHITE JAP SILKS, 27 and 36 inches wide, regular \$1.00 qualities—special this week, the.... 78c

\$1 Card Cases 65 Cents

Card Cases 65c—Genuine seal and walrus leather Card Cases, lined with fine calf leather; come in black, brown and tan. Our regular \$1.00 values; special for.... 65c

Children's Purses

Children's Bead Purses, Special 49c—An assortment of pretty imported Bead Purses, with gold and steel bead designs, inside metal frame, with chain handles; our regular 65c values; special for.... 49c

From Second Floor Suit Department

- WOMEN'S SUITS in short jacket effects, most of them in fancy mixed materials, and some in rich plain black, made in stylish models, nicely trimmed and there are suits in the lot that have sold for as high as \$35 ea. This is a final clearing out of about 150, and to make them go at a very lively rate, for today \$9.85 we sell them for only.... \$4.95
WOMEN'S COATS, half fitting and loose back style, also a few in the swaggar Empire effects, mostly in fancy mixed materials, and worth as high as \$25 each. Special for today.... \$4.95
CHILDREN'S COATS, in fancy mixtures and plain colors, for children 6 to 14 years of age. A lot of about 75 to clean up at once, and to make quick selling we are going to cut the regular prices 1/2 (\$4.50 to \$18.50) in half.... \$2.25
CHILDREN'S UNION SUITS—Cream colored cotton, medium or heavy weight. Regular \$1.00 value; special.... 49c
CHILDREN'S UNION SUITS—Silver gray worsted, worth to 90c; special.... 33c
BOYS' UNDERSHIRTS—Winter weight cotton, regular 35c value; special.... 18c

Men's Goods

Men's Hose—Oyster gray, with black stripes and figures; a grade that usually sells for 20c; special.... 10c
Men's Golf Shirts, plain or plaid styles, have attached cuffs; qualities worth \$2 each; special today.... \$1.19
Men's Underwear—Super-weight gray wool, shirts and drawers, that sell regularly for 75c the garment.... 55c
Men's Golf Shirts—A broken line; come in plain blue, tan and fancy figured effects; regular 75c shirts; special for today.... 39c

DECIDE ON STOCK SHOW

COMMITTEE HOPES TO EQUAL 1905 FAIR EXHIBIT. Say Project Can Be Financed Relatively and That Easterners Will Come.

Portland will have a livestock show in the Fall designed to equal if not surpass the great livestock exhibition of the Lewis and Clark Exposition. The special committee of the Chamber of Commerce appointed by President Reed met yesterday afternoon and practically decided to hold the show and will meet again Saturday afternoon to arrange preliminary plans and to determine on a site. Those who attended the meeting were Charles E. Ladd, Richard Scott and H. C. Campbell, all of whom are highly enthusiastic over the idea. M. D. Wisdom, the other member of the committee, was unable to attend, but his support is assured. W. P. Olds was originally appointed on the committee, but said he could not find time to serve. Few details were discussed yesterday, but the members were all of opinion that the business men of Portland are willing to support the movement and it was said several large cash subscriptions were offered without solicitation, as no steps have been taken to raise money, and are taken to show that public sentiment favors an exhibition. It is believed the necessary money can be raised in a few days after a definite plan has been adopted. Nothing was said relative to the annual exposition being boosted by Dan McAllen and others, but this will be taken up later. Mr. McAllen and his many friends believe that an exposition ought to be held in connection with the livestock show. The livestock show is to last a week or more. Support of the Eastern and California livestock men is assured, as ever since the Lewis and Clark Fair they have been corresponding with the Oregon livestock men, requesting that another exhibition be held. Prominent stock-raisers of the East are making arrangements to send a trainload of prize-winners out to the Coast in the Fall for exhibition purposes. Arrangements will be made to have the trainload in Portland when the livestock show is held and there will be many other exhibitors from the East. Not until the show at the Fair did Oregon have a reputation for exceptionally fine livestock. Then the Oregon exhibitors were brought into close competition with the Eastern exhibitors and they surprised even themselves, carrying off the majority of the prizes. One reason why the Eastern exhibitors are anxious to come to the Northwest is that they regard this as a comparatively new field.

LONG SIGNS 25 PLAYERS

Manager of Seals Starts Practice With Ten Pitchers—More to Come.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 7.—(Special.)—Danny Long is wondering if there are enough hotels at Bakersfield to house his horde of seals which he will take South with him the first of March. Long has signed 25 players and there are still a few more blank contracts in his pockets. "I will start off with ten pitchers, at least," remarked Long today, who will soon announce his list of players, "and I may have more. If half of them make

Catarrets

Relieve Nasal Catarrh, allay inflammation, soothe and heal the mucous membrane, sweeten and purify the breath. Best gargle for Sore Throat. 50c. or \$1. Druggists or mail.

Dyspeplets

Give instant relief in Sour Stomach, Heartburn, Nausea, all discomforts of indigestion and dyspepsia. Pleasant and economical. Medium size, 25c.; Large, 5c.; Pocket, handsome aluminum bonbonniere, 10c. Druggists or mail. C. I. HOOD CO., Lowell, Mass.

H. Liebes & Co. J. P. Plagemann, Manager 135 Fifth OUR GREAT REDUCTION SALE Still continues, and such values in choice furs have never before been offered to the Portland public. This includes ties suitable for Spring wear, and very natty in appearance. Every article in the house has been unmercifully cut. We are now prepared to remodel promptly all fur garments. HIGHEST CASH PRICE PAID FOR RAW FURS. Send for Price List.

