

BALLINGER GETS HIS MEN TO WORK

New Land Commissioner Making Good in Disorganized Office.

STARTS REFORM ALREADY

Insists on Promptness With Correspondence and Makes Clerks Earn Salaries—Burdened With Barnacles Ignorant of West.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, March 22.—President Roosevelt picked the right man when he appointed R. A. Ballinger, of Seattle, Commissioner of the General Land Office. Mr. Ballinger is going to make good. He is properly constituted to run a big Government office on business principles; he is a good executive officer; he knows how to handle men and how to direct their work, and, combined with other qualifications, he has a thorough, comprehensive and practical idea of the public land question.

It is not unusual for new Government officials to inaugurate reforms when they enter upon their public duties. In this respect Mr. Ballinger is like the rest, but, unlike the great majority, he is not reforming for the sake of making a change, but reforming with a view to improving a badly disorganized service. He is reforming as fast as he finds need of reform, and only so fast.

Answers Letters Promptly.

Having had a vast amount of correspondence with the Land Office during the years he has been practicing law in Seattle, Mr. Ballinger had some idea of the way in which business was conducted in the Land Office at Washington. He knew, for instance, that correspondence was loosely handled; that letters were sometimes held six months before being acknowledged, when under a good administration, they could have been answered the day they were received. Having personal knowledge on this point, the new Commissioner did not slow about issuing an order to the chiefs of all divisions to the effect that all mail must be answered within 48 hours of receipt, except in cases where considerable search or deliberation was necessary. Such cases are the exception, not the rule. Already Senators and Representatives and accredited attorneys have noticed a great change in the Land Office method of conducting correspondence.

Makes Clerks Work Full Time.

When the President ordered the suspension of all public land entries pending examination in the field by a special agent, thousands upon thousands of cases accumulated in the Land Office because there were no clerks to handle them. To make the necessary examinations, a few days ago the President revoked that order, the pending cases were released, and it was up to Mr. Ballinger to get rid of them as expeditiously as possible. He had been convinced that Government clerks in his department were not overburdened with work; he found that actually they were. He immediately ordered their hours of labor and he forthwith asked the Secretary of the Interior to require the Land Office clerks to work extra half hours each day until the congestion should be relieved. The Secretary is sustaining the new Commissioner and accordingly issued the order. This did not please the clerks, but it has demonstrated to them that they must do a fair day's work for a fair day's pay and they must apply themselves during office hours. The more diligent they are the sooner the congestion will get back to the regular working day of seven hours, not counting a half hour for lunch.

Office Badly Demoralized.

As a matter of fact, Ballinger has fallen into an office that is badly in need of reform. The Land Office became demoralized under Ringer Hermann, of Oregon. Hermann had no executive ability; he was utterly incompetent to fill the position of Land Commissioner, and naturally many abuses grew up under his administration, which led to great confusion. Hermann's successor, while a practical Westerner, did not possess that rare executive ability that was demanded of a man in the position of Land Commissioner, though he did make a number of reforms. His great trouble was that he did not go far enough. Therefore, it was left to Mr. Ballinger to reorganize the Land Office and he has entered upon the task as if he were determined to make it a practically business concern.

Full of Old Barnacles.

What is still more deplorable is the fact that the chiefs of many of the divisions are of this same old type who have been in their respective positions for two or three decades. It is also a remarkable fact that only one chief of division in the Land Office is a Western man. The others come from states that have not an acre of public land and in consequence these chiefs have no practical idea of conditions in the West. Their entire knowledge of the public domain has come through reading and through discussing land questions with men from the West. It is a second-hand knowledge, this is a serious handicap to the Land Office and it would not be surprising if the next year saw many radical changes in the make-up of the Commissioner's advisory staff. Such changes as this will not be made hastily, for the Commissioner will not get thoroughly acquainted with the various divisions, chiefs and ascertain for himself what men are competent and what men are not. But it is a safe bet that whenever he finds a chief of division who is incompetent, he will find some way of replacing him by a man competent to fill the place.

Cannot Shake Them Off.

Under the civil service law there is no way of ridding the Government service of old worn-out clerks—"barnacles"—as they are called in Washington. They can be removed in rank, but there is no provision for turning them out on the cold world. The Land Office is handicapped by the large number of barnacles that have been collected within its walls, and as long as they remain on the roll it will be difficult to keep the work of the office up to date.

It may be set down for a sure thing, however, that, if any man can bring the work of the office up to date, Mr. Ballinger will do it. He is the right kind of man for the place and he is stronger in the position because he accepted the office against his protest.

Stenographer Breaks Record.

CHICAGO, March 22.—Miss Rose L.

Prize, two times winner of the National championship typewriting contest, at the Coliseum last night won the championship for the third time, winning permanently the silver cup offered and breaking the world's record for copying dictations from shorthand notes. The record she established last night was 2445 words in 30 minutes. This is 200 words better than her last record, which was made a year ago at the contest held at Madison Square Garden, New York.

TRANS EXCHANGE TRACKS

Southern Pacific and Santa Fe Make Wide Detours.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 22.—The railroad situation between here and San Francisco is practically unchanged from yesterday. The Santa Fe and Southern Pacific, by a combination of tracks, are able to get trains through the San Joaquin Valley. The Santa Fe is running all trains regularly, although its line is still washed out at Stockton. At this point the Santa Fe is using the Southern Pacific tracks between Oakland and Calva.

CALIFORNIA STORM BROKEN

Floods Are Receding and Train Service Is Resumed.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 22.—The storm which has hung over California has been broken and conditions everywhere have greatly improved. The rivers running through the great interior valleys which flooded vast tracts of land and threatened several cities have fallen rapidly, and no more damage from this source is apprehended. Telegraph communication, which for a time was interrupted in every direction, has been restored. The Weather Bureau predicts clearing weather, although showers may continue to fall for several days.

Leaves Break at Sacramento.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., March 22.—Reports from the down-river district are that the effect of the rain has been broken in four places between Courtland and Walnut Grove. Liver, Staten, New Hope and Brannan Islands are flooded. The only islands which have thus far been spared are the islands of Grand, Ryner and Sherman, but when the morning reports were received the great of the flood had not reached them.

Utah Train Service Demoralized.

OGDEN, Utah, March 22.—Nothing more than a stub train carrying passengers is to leave Ogden over the Union Pacific this afternoon. Railroad traffic in every direction is paralyzed. The Southern Pacific has scheduled a train from Sacramento to arrive late this evening without Eastern connection and no attempt is made to run regular trains.

MURDERER HAS POSSE AT BAY

Crazed Italian Miner Fortified in Lonely Mountain Hut.

SPOKANE, Wash., March 22.—(Special)—Chief Constable of Provincial Police, Bullock Webster, and Constable Young, of Nelson, and Constable Wilson, of Creston, B. C., with a posse of citizens, are endeavoring tonight, under cover of darkness, to surround a lonely hut on a craggy bluff on the southern end of Lake Kootenay, where a half-crazed Italian prospector, Giacomo Torretti, after having murdered his mate, Giuseppe Azzurri, is holding the post with a rifle and \$9 worth of cartridges, purchased before his crime was discovered.

MAY GET TACOMA FRANCHISE

Bellingham Is Anxious to Enter the Northwestern League.

BELLINGHAM, Wash., March 22.—"Bellingham can have a baseball franchise if it wants it," said W. H. Lucas, president of the Northwestern League, who arrived in the city today afternoon. "Tacoma has decided that it does not want to retain the team, and Mike Lynch and a team already signed up will accompany the franchise if it comes to Bellingham."

KISER FOR SOUVENIR PHOTOS.

Northwest Scenery—Lobby Imperial.

Burns, chaps, snow, chaffing, tender skin healed by Satin skin cream. Try it. 25c.

OWN YOUR OWN HOME

IN ROSE CITY PARK



CHICAGO, March 22.—Miss Rose L.

MAXIM TELLS OF GREAT INVENTION

Fuse Which Will Explode Shell at Any Distance Which May Be Desired.

POSSIBLE RESULT OF WAR

Inventor of Explosives Declares Pacific Coast Defenseless and Japan Could Occupy California Before We Got Ready.

NEW YORK, March 22.—Hudson Maxim, inventor of high explosives, made the vehicle to carry to the world the news of his invention of the high explosive now known as maximite. Tonight's announcement, he said, marks another step forward in the art of war mechanics and means the final victory over armor, as at present hardened by armor-piercing shells.

Final Victory Over Armor.

Mr. Maxim recalled that several years ago he made the Canadian Society dinner the vehicle to carry to the world the news of his invention of the high explosive now known as maximite. Tonight's announcement, he said, marks another step forward in the art of war mechanics and means the final victory over armor, as at present hardened by armor-piercing shells.

Pacific Coast Defenseless.

The speaker prefaced his talk about high explosives by a talk on the comparatively undefended seaboard of the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts of the United States. The tremendous expense of modern warfare, he said, makes the unprepared nation the only inviting bait. He continued: "Poor old China is a good sample of what may happen to a nation unprepared to maintain its own peace by being prepared for war. We are relatively as defenseless as China. Suppose some other nation should attempt to force our hand and call our bluff. Thanks to England, she does not call the bluff."

What Japan Could Do.

It is true that we have got behind us the great American genius, but while that is getting to work, the Japanese might capture the Pacific Slope, land 200,000 troops and occupy California. And California is rich enough in her own right to support the whole Japanese nation.

Wonderful New Fuse.

It will not matter whether the plate is one or 12 inches in thickness, I have been working on the fuse for ten years.

It is possible to so adjust the fuse that it will be utterly impossible for the shell to explode after it has been fired from the gun. This is highly important in the use of high explosives.

WIFE AND PARTNER DIE

Mrs. Fred Belasco's Death Fatal Shock to W. A. Mayer.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 22.—Mrs. Fred Belasco, wife of the senior partner of the Alcazar Theater, and known on the stage under the name of Juliet Crosby, died suddenly at 3 o'clock this morning, and an hour later M. A. Mayer, Mr. Belasco's partner, died of the shock.

Both Mrs. Frederick Belasco and Mr. Mayer are well known in Portland, both in theatrical and social circles. Mrs. Belasco was last in this city when her husband came here to prepare for the opening of the Belasco Theater, now the Helix.

SHIP IS FAST ON ROCKS

Northwestern May Be Total Wreck on La Touche Island.

SEATTLE, March 22.—A special to the Post-Intelligencer from Valdez, Alaska, says: "The steamer Portland arrived here at midnight with the passengers and mail from the steamer Northwestern, which was wrecked Tuesday morning on a rock near Beaton's wharf, La Touche Island. The vessel was leaving the bay en route to Valdez, when a flurry of wind caught her and threw her bow on, on the rocks. She went on easily and Captain Truebridge thought no damage done, but he could not pull her off."

As the tide lowered the steamship settled on the rock, punching holes in the forward compartments. The forward bulkhead held and the engine-room and freight compartments are still dry, though there is 17 feet of water in the forward hold.

GREAT SAWMILL BURNED

Loss of at Least \$700,000 in Arkansas Lumber Town.

PINE BLUFF, Ark., March 22.—Fire late today swept over the entire plant of the Bluff City Lumber Company and destroyed several small dwellings owned by the company. The loss is estimated at from \$700,000 to \$750,000. When the fire started in the boiler room of the lumber plant, the entire fire department responded, but the water pressure was not sufficient to subdue the flames.

THE DAY'S DEATH RECORD

Wife of Ex-Governor Routt.

DENVER, March 22.—Mrs. Eliza P. Routt, wife of former Governor John L. Routt, of Colorado, died at the home of her son-in-law, Dr. Edward W. Collins, in this city, aged 62 years.

Buried in Arlington Cemetery.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—Funeral services for Brigadier-General Wm. L. S. A., who died yesterday in Philadelphia, will be held Monday at Arlington National Cemetery, where the burial will take place.

Hadway's Ready Relief instantly relieves colds, sore throat, bronchitis and all inflammations.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The Spring Medicine

Guaranteed Under the Food and Drugs Act June 30, 1906. No. 324.



It is Not a Patent Medicine. Its formula Originated in a Prescription By the Famous Dr. Oliver Of Boston. Wonderful, Unequaled Success. Has marked Its History.

Prepared from Sarsaparilla root, Blue Flag, Yellow Dock, Juniper Berries, Uva Ursi, Pipsissewa, Guaiac, Wild Cherry, Bitter Orange Peel, Gentian, Mandrake, Dandelion, Senna, and other valuable ingredients, by a combination, proportion, and process peculiar to itself, unknown to any other medicine, and giving it curative value peculiar to itself. This is shown by its great cures of

Spring Humors

scrofula, eczema, all eruptions, rheumatism, catarrh, kidney and liver troubles and all other complaints caused by impure blood or low condition of the system. It is an honest medicine of genuine merit.

\$500 to float the vessel from the rock on which she is impaled.

Captain Truebridge will return to the wreck tonight by the Santa Clara, taking with him gasoline tanks for air drums, with which he hopes to lighten the bow of the vessel. In case he is successful he will beach the ship, but he has little hope of being able to dislodge her.

LOSS OF AT LEAST \$700,000 IN ARKANSAS LUMBER TOWN.

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ANNIE OAKLEY

The World's Greatest Lady Rifle Shot

USES AND RECOMMENDS NEWBRO'S HERPICIDE

THE ORIGINAL REMEDY THAT KILLS THE DANDRUFF GERM

"Traveling as I do continuously, I have been troubled a great deal with dandruff and falling hair, and until I tried Herpicide I never found a remedy that was satisfactory. Herpicide is a delightful preparation, that fulfills the claims made for it, and no lady's toilet is complete without it. I highly recommend it to my friends." (Signed) "ANNIE OAKLEY."

It is certainly significant that Miss Oakley, the celebrated rifle shot and theatrical star, who has traveled so extensively abroad, should choose Newbro's Herpicide as the most efficacious toilet remedy for the scalp. No one will doubt her opportunity to choose the best, and those who have seen the natty and winsome Miss Oakley will not doubt her power of discrimination in matters of this sort.

Newbro's Herpicide is a scientific germicide and prophylactic for the hair and scalp. It destroys the germ or microbe that causes dandruff, itching scalp and falling hair, after which the hair will grow as Nature intended, except in cases of incurable baldness. Extraordinary results sometimes follow the continued use of Newbro's Herpicide.

If your hair is dull, brittle or lustreless, don't wait until it begins to fall, but save and beautify it with Newbro's Herpicide. In addition to its wonderful medicinal qualities, Newbro's Herpicide is the faintest and most delightfully refreshing hair dressing available. The first application proves its goodness. Try it.

Herpicide contains no grease. It will not stain or dye. STOPS ITCHING OF THE SCALP INSTANTLY

At Drug Stores—Send 10c in stamps to The Herpicide Co., Dept. N, Detroit, Mich. for a Sample

TWO SIZES, 50c and \$1.00

FOR SALE AT ALL DRUG STORES



ANNIE OAKLEY