

## BLAME FOR PANIC FALLS ON BANKERS

### Begin Too Late to Remove Rotten Spots.

## PRESIDENT'S HAND IN REFORM

### American People Not Disposed to Censure Him.

## INVESTIGATION UNDER WAY

### Prosecution of "Big Thieves" May Have Hastened Trouble, but Roosevelt Declares Disturbance Was Inevitable.

BY WALTER WELLMAN.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Is President Roosevelt responsible for the recent flurry in banking, called by some the panic? There is no more interesting question before the American people. It is a question which is pretty sure to be much discussed during the coming Presidential campaign. It is moreover a question which every citizen would like to have authoritatively answered, for these reasons:

A great majority of the people have upheld the President in his campaign for corporate reform and control. If, as alleged, that campaign has produced financial distress and temporary dull times, then the people who have supported the President in his policies are equally responsible with him.

Venturing no opinion of my own—pains-taking investigation would be required before doing that—I quote some interesting remarks upon the subject recently made to me.

Bound to Come, Anyway.

First is the President's own opinion. Nothing makes him more indignant than the accusation that he "brought on the panic." But he is not unreasonable or undignified in his resentment. He takes, on the whole, a very rational view of the matter. He says the financial trouble was bound to come, anyway. It was only a question of time. He admits his policy of trust prosecution may have hastened it a little, though he is not sure of that. But it was inevitable in the end, and if it had been much longer delayed might have been far more serious.

Mr. Roosevelt has been making some inquiries as to the responsibility for the recent flurry, and it is quite probable he will have something to say on the subject when the proper time comes. These investigations, when finished, are likely to produce interesting disclosures. For instance, it is said to be capable of proof that certain big financiers in New York, allied with Standard Oil, have for two years been trying to bring on a little panic which could be blamed upon Roosevelt and the Administration for political effect. Mr. Morgan was never a party to this conspiracy, but some negotiations of a year or so ago in London, with a view to cornering the money market in America, carried on by a Standard Oil banker, are under inquiry.

Some of the Causes.

As to the cause of the recent disturbance, three distinct views are held by men whose opinions are worthy of consideration.

First—The rabid anti-Roosevelt or Wall street view, that the President did it, and he alone, with his little trust-busting hatchet.

Second—The view of the average New York banker and business man that while Roosevelt will be partly responsible, the chief cause was the action of the Western banks in demanding their money from New York and boarding it away in their vaults at a time when it was most needed in the financial center.

Third—The Western return to this, in which there is more truth than poetry, that it was "a Wall-street gamblers' panic," and that they of the West preferred to have their cash at home.

While the New York banks as a whole were conservatively managed and sound, the Morse, Thomas & Helze concerns were notoriously used by plungers in the stock market operations which had been going on for a long time. These institutions, as managed, should have been closed up or a change of management ordered long ago. The big financiers of New York knew all about it, but did nothing. They waited until the strain upon credit, confidence and capital by too much anticipation of the future had become acute, and then, with trouble brewing, they got together and decided upon reform at the weak spots. Morse, Helze & Thomas were forced out. The crisis was on.

Cleaning Out Rotten Spots.

Rotten banking spots should be cleaned up at times when there is no strain, when everything is going on normally. To wait till a crisis comes through general conditions and then to clean up is a good deal like cleansing cesspools after pestilence has appeared.

There is no doubt that Mr. Morgan and other big men in New York did grand old service by cleaning up those spots, though it is a pity they

hadn't done it earlier. President Roosevelt's friends say it is absurd to charge him with responsibility for the optimistic American temperament which draws too many sight drafts on the future, or for the rotten spots in New York which precipitated the crisis, made inevitable by the general strain on credit. They add that it is equally absurd to criticize him for saying the rotten spots existed.

Every one knows it. The people of the West know it. Western bankers knew it when they made haste to draw their money out of the metropolis.

## ROBBED INDIANS OF LAND

### Senate Expected to Order Prosecution of Kickapoo Frauds.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Senators Teller, Curtis and La Follette, composing the committee which was authorized to investigate the affairs of the Kickapoo Indians, will soon submit to the Senate a report giving the names of several persons who are alleged to have dealt fraudulently with the Kickapoo, who

## PROSECUTION OF "BIG THIEVES" MAY HAVE HASTENED TROUBLE, BUT ROOSEVELT DECLARES DISTURBANCE WAS INEVITABLE.

Abe Hummel, Convict-Lawyer, May Die Any Moment.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Abe Hummel, the lawyer, who is serving a sentence for conspiracy, may die at any moment from kidney trouble. Hummel's sentence to Blackwell Island will expire in a few weeks.

## ROOSEVELT AS A SAINT

### Russian Peasants' Worship President's Picture.

Regard Likeness of St. Peter With Beard Off and Specs On—Brings Good Fortune to Them.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Americanists are making a great deal of President Theodore Roosevelt, but it has been reserved for the Russian peasants settled in Eastern Siberia to reverence the well-known picture, which shows the gleam of teeth, as that of a saint. That they do so is asserted to be a fact by Alexander G. Denbigh, who arrived on board the steamer Siberia, and is now staying at the St. Francis Hotel.

"The people there are of the lowest class of Russian peasant and know nothing about the outside world," said Denbigh. "In every house, no matter how poor it may be, there is sure to be an ikon of some kind, and if it is possible for the owner of the place, he also has a picture of a saint.

"The picture of your President has gone over the world, and can be found in many queer places. I remember asking one of my men from the Ural Mountain district, who had never heard of Roosevelt, what picture he had in his tent. He at once told me that it was one of St. Peter—without the beard and with specs on. Curious to see such a picture, I went to the hut and found that it was a chromo of the President of the United States. The man assured me that he had the best of good fortune since he had obtained the picture of the "holy saint."

## RICH FEW RULE NATION

### Bourke Cockran Describes Revolution in Political System.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—(Special.)—W. Bourke Cockran, at the opening session of the People's Forum at the new Rochelle Theater this afternoon in describing the "silent revolution in our political system," declared that the powers which have grown up in the business and financial world during the last ten years now completely dominate the Federal Government and are much stronger than any government which has ever before existed.

"During the last 10 years," said he, "the entire control of productive agencies has passed into the hands of less than half a dozen men. I think we will take the names of Rockefeller, Morgan, Harriman and Hill, and for a fifth we will say Armour, and have all that practically control the important industries and agencies of transportation. Not merely do they control these agencies, but by the influence which this control gives them of the vast deposits, they have come to dominate our financial institutions, our great insurance companies, our leading banks and trust companies. They control not merely the agencies of production and exchange, but the agencies of credit, that means the entire industrial life of a community."

Mr. Cockran said President Roosevelt had been trying to do things to the great corporate interests, but had only succeeded in saying things—that he had been able only to make faces at the trusts; that not a single one of the heads of the great financial interests had been removed from control of the companies, which they had

## NEW USE OF EPSOM SALTS

### Scientist Makes Discovery It Is Perfect Anesthetic.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Announcement of the discovery of the new anesthetic, according to the American today, will soon be made by the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

The new anesthetic is nothing else than plain, common salts, or, to give it its scientific name, sulphate of magnesium. It was discovered by Dr. Samuel J. McEwen, one of the Rockefeller Institute's experimenters. Its greatest value is that it permits any sort of operation without any danger to the heart of the patient. General anesthesia, it is said may be produced by the injection of a 20 per cent solution of the familiar drug into the nerve tract governing the sensations of the part to be operated upon.

## RETURNING TO THE FOLD.

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 15.—The Jacksonian Club of Nebraska, which several years ago expelled a number of prominent members who bolted the Bryan ticket, has reinstated several of them, including ex-Postmaster Martin, and will hold a reunion and banquet January 6 to celebrate the return of these former members of the club. William J. Bryan will be the chief speaker.

## PATRONAGE TO FAITHFUL ONLY

### Oregon Delegation Demands Party Loyalty.

## SUPPORT AT POLLS REQUIRED

### Senators and Congressmen Meet in Conference.

## MAJORITY VOTE DECIDES

### Method of Making Appointments to Office Agreed Upon After Long Session—Land Office Officials and Postmasters Named.

## THROAT CUT IN DREAM

### Salem Man Awakes to Find It Is a Reality.

#### Does Deed While Asleep—Says He Has No Possible Motive for Suicide—Is Saved by a Friend.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—That he was acting under the influence of a dream is the only explanation that William Thorne can give for cutting his throat in his room in this city yesterday evening.

Though he cut his throat from ear to ear, severing large veins and cutting his windpipe in two, he did not lose consciousness, and is now to all appearances in his right mind. He says he remembers his suicidal act as he would remember a dream, and it is his opinion that he was asleep on his bed; that he arose and cut his throat while dreaming, and returned to the bed. He had no desire to die, and in his waking moments never thought of suicide.

But for the timely entrance of a friend, Thorne would have bled to death in a short time. As it is, he is likely to recover. He is a bachelor, 41 years of age, and a teamster by occupation. He is in comfortable circumstances financially and no motive for suicide can be imagined.

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## RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES OF NATIONAL BANKS IN OREGON, DECEMBER 3, 1907

City	Name	RESOURCES.			LIABILITIES.		
		U. S. bonds to secure circulation.	U. S. and other bonds.	Cash and due from banks.	Capital stock.	Surplus and undivided profits.	Deposits.
Athens	First National	\$220,388.39	\$12,500.00	\$2,728.10	\$30,000.00	\$27,559.09	\$294,569.98
Burns	First National	181,203.83	25,000.00	15,395.10	25,000.00	19,294.24	298,978.41
Canonville	Harney County National	85,989.27	6,500.00	9,000.00	25,000.00	17,549.97	117,538.90
Cannonville	First National	74,832.80	6,250.00	13,107.07	25,000.00	8,812.71	119,582.94
Cogswell	First National	42,388.44	6,250.00	92,548.30	25,000.00	12,067.17	278,380.32
Enterprise	First National	184,205.29	12,500.00	40,127.53	30,000.00	49,823.03	348,378.67
Forest Grove	Forest Grove National	122,432.42	25,000.00	31,842.19	25,000.00	19,461.39	169,372.46
Hesperia	First National	462,170.85	12,500.00	4,250.00	30,000.00	69,388.06	577,048.31
Independence	Independence National	142,110.31	12,500.00	29,842.58	43,938.55	68,738.72	180,772.04
Jewell	First National	46,454.53	6,250.00	16,887.57	25,000.00	1,305.54	40,889.55
Klamath Falls	First National	70,851.93	10,000.00	23,646.61	40,239.76	6,853.98	107,502.29
La Grande	La Grande National	611,877.75	100,000.00	30,885.32	215,590.21	78,885.06	719,471.23
Medford	First National	136,451.91	18,250.00	29,727.27	108,880.29	1,587.90	187,549.97
Medford	First National of Coos Bay	82,541.92	28,874.92	339,583.44	92,790.82	6,187.97	286,291.63
Medford	First National	85,941.94	35,000.00	112,964.15	127,069.52	6,288.98	298,077.47
Medford	Medford National	136,451.91	49,800.00	20,307.91	164,194.99	12,474.07	301,499.35
Newberg	First National	127,094.76	10,000.00	47,856.81	25,000.00	2,074.54	138,548.78
Oregon City	First National	48,956.87	12,500.00	44,078.25	74,056.49	50,000.00	184,659.40
Prineville	First National	237,294.17	12,500.00	171,970.19	59,000.00	62,593.70	307,575.18
Salem	Capital National	310,943.54	10,000.00	158,716.50	234,133.11	75,000.00	591,100.95
Sheridan	First National	121,120.51	7,000.00	57,674.20	25,000.00	4,308.05	182,352.71
Springfield	First National	3,071.93	10,000.00	16,054.99	25,000.00	2,000.00	15,862.26
Vernonia	First National	184,597.43	10,000.00	10,765.78	137,802.06	49,000.00	24,210.33

pillaged and plundered. He criticized Governor Hughes also in regard to the public-service commission and the veto of the 2-cent bill.

Speaking of the putative powers of the National Government as compared with what he declared the real government, Mr. Cockran cited the recent financial panic and said this panic was the greatest that had ever faced the country, and had been dealt with, not by agents of the Government, but by forces outside. The eyes

of the country, he said, had not been turned on the executive at Washington for relief, but on the library of a prominent citizen of New York, where a secret convulse was held. The result of this convulse, he said, was the adoption of measures upon which the whole country is now staking its financial policy.

"The final outcome of the revolution in our political system will not be a loss of progress," he continued, "but the ultimate solution of the present difficulties, the stepping-stone from which the human race will rise to a higher plane."

## SALEM MAN AWAKES TO FIND IT IS A REALITY.

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Canonville	Harney County National	85,989.27	6,500.00	9,000.00	25,000.00	17,549.97	117,538.90
Cannonville	First National	74,832.80	6,250.00	13,107.07	25,000.00	8,812.71	119,582.94
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## OREGON BANKS IN FINE CONDITION

### Reserves 42 Per Cent of Deposits.

## READY TO RESUME BUSINESS

### No Longer Slightest Need for Legal Holidays.

## SHOW GAIN IN DEPOSITS

### Official Reports Made to Controller of Currency Indicate That Return to Normal Basis Will Be Safely Made.

## RESERVES 42 PER CENT OF DEPOSITS.

November 18, of the present year, has the distinction of having in its vaults an amount of actual cash in excess of all deposits. In the two weeks this bank was in business prior to making its report on December 3, deposits were received to the amount of \$15,899,200, while its report shows cash on hand aggregating \$16,658,529.

Reserves Exceptionally High.

Included among the banks showing an unusually high percentage of reserve funds are noted the following, which have reported since the last statement was published: First National Bank, of Forest Grove, 58 per cent; First National, of Oregon City, and the First National, of Prineville, 35 per cent each; Harney County National Bank, of Burns, and the Medford National Bank, of Medford, 54 per cent each; Farmers & Traders National Bank, of La Grande, 52 per cent; First National Bank, of Vale, 49; First National Bank, of Medford, 42, and Capital National Bank, of Salem, 39.

These figures serve to confirm the report that for the last two weeks many

## RESERVES 42 PER CENT OF DEPOSITS.

of the banks have been desirous that the holidays should be declared off so that they could resume business on a normal basis. Deposits in banks throughout the state have been increasing since the date of the reports, exceeding as a rule withdrawals. A comparison of the last two reports of the National banks doing business in Oregon shows that the same condition was true with them between August 22 and December 3, the dates of their last reports to the Controller of the Currency.

## DEPOSITS ALSO LARGER.

For instance, these reports, particularly from the banks in Eastern and Southern Oregon, indicate heavy increases in deposits, the following cases being noted: First National Bank, of Burns, from \$25,639.57 to \$28,578.41; Harney County National Bank, of Burns, from \$18,443.98 to \$17,347.50; First National Bank, of Vale, \$27,127.15 to \$28,100.97; First National Bank, of Athena, \$25,271.01 to \$29,549.96; First National Bank, of Medford, \$78,289.33 to \$29,077.47; La Grande National Bank, of La Grande, \$74,949.37 to \$79,471.23.

Further proof of the ability of the country banks to take care of themselves without assistance from the larger institutions in this city was furnished recently when in response to inquiries that were sent out from Portland less than 11 per cent of the banks in the interior made application for even a part of their balances carried in this city. They now find themselves with more money in their vaults than they have had in years and are in a position to return to a normal business basis without the protection of the holidays, or any assistance.

## MAN TRIES DROWNING AND ROUGH ON RATS.

Tries to Murder Wife, Then Jumps in River—Too Cold, So Drinks Some Poison That Kills Friend.

## FRENZIED SUICIDE ATTEMPT

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Balked in his attempt to kill himself with poison from the same bottle that brought death to his friend, Ed Hoff, lacking the nerve in a previous attempt to drown himself in icy waters of the river, after he, had failed to kill his wife, shooting twice at her with a double-barreled shotgun, Frederick Angle is now detained at Marcus Wash, recovering slowly from the poison.

Angle yesterday went to the home of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Ed Bellesier, at Marcus, where his wife, Nita, is staying, and opened fire with a double-barreled shotgun at Mrs. Angle. The first shot grazed his wife's ear and the second shot was warded off by his sister-in-law, Edith, who was close by. After this desperate attempt, Angle ran to the Columbia River, 100 feet away, and jumped in, with suicidal intent. He swam about 10 feet and returned. Next he took a whiskey flask from his pocket containing "rough on rats" in liquid form, and drank part of the contents. An article and a stomach pump were used and the chances of recovery are good.

Angle, while at Northport, has been associating with Ed Hoff, and they both purchased a quantity of "rough on rats" from a local druggist. Ed Hoff committed suicide yesterday at Northport, this morning, in a saloon yesterday morning, showed a small whiskey flask three-quarters full of a white, leady liquid substance, and remarked to the barkeeper that the same bottle caused the death of his friend Ed Hoff, at Northport, and that he was tired of living and was going to kill himself with it.

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