

### PROCESSES FAIR ON SUBMARINE BOATS

#### Metcalf and Capps Fail to Sustain Lilley's Charges of Graft.

#### AGENT SENT TO PACIFIC

#### Archibald, War Correspondent, Stimulated Public Demand for Submarines—Spears Again Accused of Lobbying.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—Secretary of the Navy Metcalf and Admiral Capps, Chief of the Bureau of Construction of the Navy Department, today testified before the special committee of the House that is investigating the charges made against the Electric Boat Company by Representative Lilley, of Connecticut. Both stated that they did not believe the Electric Boat Company had secured an excessive profit on the contracts already awarded it, nor did they believe it would make an excessive profit on any future contracts it may secure.

Edward L. Clark, private secretary to Representative Johnson, testified that Lawrence Spear, vice-president of the Electric Boat Company, told him that his company had influence with Speaker Cannon and could use it to help Captain Hobson to get on the naval affairs committee, but before doing so "would have to know how Mr. Hobson stood on the proposition in which he was interested—the question of submarine boats."

#### Who Indorsed Hobson.

Representative Butler (Pennsylvania) appeared before the committee and said he had never at any time spoken to Mr. Metcalf relative to the construction of any kind of a boat.

Evidence was presented showing that the only indorsement that Captain Hobson had for the place on the naval affairs committee was from the Alabama delegation in Congress. Representative John Sharp Williams, the minority leader, had recommended his appointment to the committee, and that recommendation had been accepted by Mr. Cannon.

#### Electric Boat's Press Agent.

Mr. Lilley presented to the committee an affidavit signed by Clement E. Adams and dated Bridgeport, Conn., March 13, 1908, in which Mr. Adams swears that while he was engaged in the construction of the City of Washington during the Summer of 1906, J. P. Archibald represented to him that he was a war correspondent for Collier's Weekly, and that he had been appointed by the President of the United States to visit certain cities and towns on the Pacific Coast and to report to the committee upon the condition of the coast defenses.

#### Our Boats as Good as Others.

In regard to Mr. Lilley's charge that submarine boats built by this Government were inferior to those owned by foreign nations, Admiral Capps said there was no basis for such charges, as there were no facts available on which to base such charges.

"As far as I am aware," he said, "our boats are just as good as others."

#### PRISONER CHARGES PLOT

Says Officers Conspired to Kill Fellow Convict.

Accompanying the affidavit was the following letter from President Roosevelt, dated March 18, denying that Mr. Archibald was ever appointed or employed by him or so far as he knew he ever employed by anyone else connected with the administration.

"Referring to our conversation of this morning, the individual named was appointed or employed by me, nor so far as I know he ever appointed or employed by anyone else connected with the administration. Sometime about a year ago he came in and saw me for about two minutes and said that he was going to make an investigation of the question of submarine defense on the Pacific coast and particularly in reference to Puget Sound, and that he was immensely interested in the subject, having been a war correspondent for various papers, and that he would like to see me a report of what he found. I answered him that of course I should be very glad to receive such a report from him or any other man who might investigate the subject. He sent a letter on the subject a few weeks later which I transmitted to the Secretary of the Navy. I have transmitted dozens of similar letters from men who have told me of investigations that they have made or of facts which they had found or suggestions which they believed were important. It is the usual course, it was followed in this instance exactly as in all similar cases."

#### Metcalf Recommended Boats.

Mr. Metcalf said that in the same annual report of 1907 which recommended the adoption of the Octopus type of boat, recommendation was made for four additional submarine boats of the same type as those recommended as the result of the competitive tests; provided a more satisfactory type was not developed in the meantime. That he said, was the only report he made on the subject.

#### FIRE IN LUMBER YARD

League Baseball Park is Threatened at Washington.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—Fire broke out shortly after midnight in the lumber yards of Elvinger Bros. at Seventh and U streets, northwest, and quickly spread to a number of buildings. The American League baseball park was threatened, and the building recently vacated by the Freedmen's Hospital was partially destroyed. The lumber yard is the largest in the city. At 2 o'clock the fire was under control. The loss is estimated at \$500,000, mostly confined to the lumber yard.

#### BILLS SAID TO BE DEAD

"Rear Attack" Rumored on Race-Track Gambling Measures.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 19.—There was sudden and unmistakable revival today of rumors of a "rear attack" upon the anti-race track gambling bills. Legislators professed ignorance of any material change in the situation and no tangible evidence of such a change was discoverable. Nevertheless the Capitol hotel lobbies and saloons buzzed tonight with more or less confident rumors that "the race-track bills are dead."

#### Many Encounters on Street.

BERLIN, March 19.—A total of 47 arrests were made in Berlin yesterday in connection with the suffragist demonstrations. Nine policemen sustained injuries in the encounters with the people. It is estimated that 20 of the demonstrators were wounded, but it is probable that many others were hurt, as the authorities have no record of those who went home and dressed their own injuries.

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### GAVE CONTRACT TO LAKE

"How was it the contract was made for a boat that cost a lower in a competitive trial?" asked Mr. Olmstead.

"Some question was raised as to the discretion vested in the department and the department referred certain questions to the Attorney-General, who decided that the Secretary of the Navy had authority to enter into a contract with the Lake Company," said Mr. Olmstead.

### HOUSE VOTES REFORM IN PENSION PAYMENT SYSTEM.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—After several hours of spirited discussion over the proposition to abolish 13 of the United States pension agencies and consolidate pension disbursements in Washington, the House today passed the pension appropriation bill, carrying \$15,382,000, the largest sum ever authorized by this measure. The House, by a vote of 86 to 78, stood by the committee on appropriations and left unchanged its recommendations for one general agency.

### ROOSEVELT BAITED AGAIN

Inquiry as to Authority for Government of Canal Zone Turns Loose—Harrison's Flood of Vituperation.

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### PROFITS NOT EXCESSIVE.

Admiral Capps quoted unofficial figures to show that the English submarine boats have cost that country more than this class of boats have cost this Government. He said the addition of ten would be proper means in excess of the requirements of the defense of the country.

### EMBEZZLES TO SPECULATE

WILSON STEALS \$75,000 FROM BUILDING CONCERN.

Supreme Secretary Juggles Books to Make Ventures in Mines and Electric Railroads.

PORT HURON, Mich., March 19.—Attorneys for the United Home Protector Fraternity of this city, a building and loan company, with banking features, authorized the cutting of bills before the Supreme Secretary W. L. Wilson last night confessed that he had mislaid \$75,000 of the funds of the institution. Banking Commissioner A. Zimmerman has taken charge.

### PROTECT TRULY INNOCENT

(Continued From First Page)

by the court or later by Congress, but that it could not be done now without incurring risk of furnishing a defense to the railroad company.

### THEY DEPART IN PROTEST

GERMAN JOURNALISTS RESIST BEING CALLED SWINE.

Reichstag Deputy's Insult Causes a Strike Because Adequate Apology is Refused.

BERLIN, March 19.—There was an uproar in the Reichstag today. During the debate on the colonial budget Herr Erzberger, Centrist, made a speech in which he referred to the government's treatment of negroes in the colonies, and made use of the phrase, "a negro also has an immortal soul."

### REAR ATTACK RUMORED ON RACE-TRACK GAMBLING MEASURES.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 19.—There was sudden and unmistakable revival today of rumors of a "rear attack" upon the anti-race track gambling bills. Legislators professed ignorance of any material change in the situation and no tangible evidence of such a change was discoverable.

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