



IMMENSE PROFITS OF STANDARD OIL

Amounted to \$80,000,000 in Year 1907.

SURPLUS NOW \$300,000,000

Rockefeller Has No Easy Time With Kellogg.

ASKED ABOUT REBATES

When Questions Grow Embarrassing, He Pleads Loss of Memory. Examined About Contracts to Squeeze the Independents.

NEW YORK, Nov. 20.—For over five hours today John D. Rockefeller, witness for the defense in the Government suit to dissolve the Standard Oil Company, faced an unceasing fire of questions from the Federal counsel, Frank B. Kellogg.

When the board of the oil combine was still being cross-examined on the charge that the company in its early days accepted rebates to the disadvantage of its rivals.

Mr. Rockefeller's cross-examination will probably not be concluded until late Tuesday, as Mr. Kellogg made it known that he would question Mr. Rockefeller on every detail of the company's business.

Enormous Earning Power. The enormous earning power of the oil combination was sharply brought out in today's hearing, when Mr. Rockefeller, after stating that the Standard had paid dividends amounting to \$80,000,000 in 1907, said it had earned as much more, and that this was added to the company's surplus, which was stated by the Government's counsel to be \$300,000,000.

It was further declared by Mr. Kellogg that the company within the last eight years has earned nearly half a billion dollars.

The course of Mr. Rockefeller's testimony in the hands of the Government's counsel ran not so smoothly as yesterday, when he told his story under the direction of friendly counsel, but the rapid fire interrogations of the prosecution were always met with unshaken imperturbability and readiness to answer except when, as he explained:

Pleads Falling Memory. "It is quite impossible for me to remember after 25 years, I do not recall."

Mr. Rockefeller was questioned closely regarding rebates which the Standard was accused of accepting, but with the exception of an agreement with the Pennsylvania Railroad, which Mr. Rockefeller explained, gave the company rebates in order to equalize oil rates, Mr. Rockefeller could not recall any other rebate.

Mr. Rockefeller, when he learned that the Government's counsel would not be able to conclude the cross-examination by tomorrow, suggested an adjournment until Monday, which was agreed to.

Production Steadily Grows. In response to questions about the hazardous nature of the oil business owing to the possibility of failure of supply, Mr. Rockefeller said that the production of crude oil in the Pennsylvania field had steadily increased from 1862 to 1898.

Mr. Kellogg read figures from an official report showing that the Pennsylvania field reached the highest point of production in 1900. Mr. Rockefeller denied that the supply of crude oil had always been ample and asserted that it had fluctuated, but that the supply is larger now than when he was actively engaged in business.

He was asked about the development of oil fields in Ohio and Oklahoma, but said that he knew little about them, as they had been actively worked since he retired from business. He described the drilling and production of oil as of the character of a mining business.

He said it was the policy of his company to pay for its oil at the wells and that the larger part of the oil it refined was purchased from the producer.

"You have been prosperous since the beginning," asked Mr. Kellogg. "Do you consider a business hazardous that on an original investment of \$67,000,000 paid dividends amounting to \$80,000,000 and had left a surplus of \$300,000,000?"

"I don't consider the amount of money accumulated whether the business is hazardous or not," said Mr. Rockefeller.

Big Stock Dividends. He was then asked about the trust agreement of 1882 and whether the trust certificates did not show a value of \$79,900,000 and that the stocks held under the agreement had an actual value of \$55,710,898.

Mr. Rockefeller said he believed these figures to be correct. Mr. Kellogg then asked whether the stock certificates issued thereafter were for stock dividends or for additional properties acquired. John C. Milburn, of Mr. Rockefeller's counsel, objected, and the ground this was not within the scope of Mr. Rockefeller's direct testimony.

Mr. Rockefeller replied: "I suppose so."

After Mr. Milburn had again objected, Mr. Rockefeller said that a stock dividend of \$13,760,000 was paid in 1886 and that the stock of the company was then \$98,358,000.

"Then up to the present time there had been issued \$115,000,000 for cash or property," asked Mr. Kellogg. "I cannot tell you."

"Well, that would make the stock..."

TELEPHONE FOR TRAIN DISPATCHING

Railroads to Substitute for Telegraph.

AMERICAN RAILWAY ASSOCIATION FINDS IT AS SAFE, MORE EFFICIENT AND ECONOMICAL.

CHICAGO, Nov. 20.—(Special).—The use of the telephone as an instrument for the dispatching and operation of trains on American railroads will soon become obsolete as the result of an action by the American Railway Association at its meeting in Chicago this week.

After an investigation extending over nearly a year by a committee appointed to consider the subject it has been found that the telephone is not only as safe as the telegraph for directing the movement of trains, but is more efficient and economical.

In consequence the railroads will proceed to substitute the new system for the telegraph.

This does not mean that every telegraph instrument is to be thrown into the scrap heap at once, as the installation of the telephone will necessarily take time and involve considerable expense.

It was learned today, however, that the railroads are planning to put the recommendation of the association, which represents over 240,000 miles of road, into effect as soon as possible, with the ultimate intention of completely abandoning the use of the telegraph.

REORGANIZE BIG CONCERN

New Westinghouse Company Starts With \$12,000,000 Capital.

NEW YORK, Nov. 20.—The readjustment committee, which has been at work for a reorganization of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company will meet in Pittsburgh next Tuesday to elect a new board of directors.

It is said that the reorganization had accumulated more than \$1,000,000 from collections and the sale of manufactured products. The reorganized company will start with \$12,000,000 in capital and with no floating debt.

MORE WORK FOR S. P. SHOPS

Machinists at Sparks Put on Nine-Hour Basis.

RENO, Nev., Nov. 20.—The Southern Pacific has established a nine-hour day at its railroad shops in Sparks, after operating for years on an eight-hour basis.

The move was necessary because of increased business, which puts extra work in shops. It is estimated that \$5,000 will be added monthly to the circulation in this vicinity.

WINS MISSOURI BY 1205

Taft Victorious in Show-Me State by Closest Margin.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Nov. 20.—W. H. Taft carried Missouri by a plurality of 1028, according to the tabulation of the official returns made by Governor Folk today.

The tabulation was made only on the first election. The vote for the first elector follows: Taft, 346,915; Bryan, 245,889; Debs, 15,238; Chafin, 4222; Higson, 267; Watson, 1143; Preston, Socialist-Labor, 670.

In the face of official returns, including official corrections, Jacob F. Gmelich, Republican, was elected Lieutenant-Governor by 26 votes, and the other minor Republican candidates were defeated.

This vote does not include amended returns, which give Paolter a net gain of 53, which if counted for him by the Legislature will elect him by 25 votes.

The corrected vote on Governor follows: Hadley, Republican, 258,932; Cowherd, Democrat, 340,053. Hadley's majority, 18,121.

FORGERIES ARE \$1,539,423

Extent of Van Vliessen's Crimes Grows With Investigation.

CHICAGO, Nov. 20.—After an examination of the various documents in the office of Peter Van Vliessen, convicted forger of mortgages, notes and trust deeds on his own confession, William C. Niblack, vice-president of the Chicago Title & Trust Company, received for the Van Vliessen properties, declared today that the forgeries amounted to \$1,539,423.

Only a thorough examination of all the papers, which include loan numbers 2618 to 2244 inclusive, will disclose to the receiver and creditors how many have been taken up by Van Vliessen, who is now a convict in Joliet Penitentiary.

Since the confession of guilt, which started the business world and preceded his sentence only a few hours, Van Vliessen has asserted repeatedly that \$250,000 would cover the forged paper which he disposed of.

FIRE SWEEPS PRAIRIES

Five Hundred Square Miles in Indian Territory Ablaze.

EL PASO, Tex., Nov. 20.—An area of 500 square miles of grazing land lying north of Roswell, I. T., is on fire and ranchmen living in the burning country are fighting with backfires to save their homes. No loss of life has been reported as yet.

HOLD POPULATION AT BAY

Robbers Rule Ohio Town While Blowing Open Safe.

ATTICA, O., Nov. 20.—Robbers held several citizens at bay here early today while they blew open and robbed the safe of Remington & Wilson's office of \$8000 in cash. The robbers were fired upon, but escaped.

EARTH UPHEAVES; 25 ARE ENGULFED

Frightful Disaster in Brooklyn Street.

MEN BURIED UNDER DEBRIS

Gas Explodes in Cut Where Gang Is Excavating.

WOMAN AND CHILDREN DIE

Pedestrians Swallowed When Ground Opens Under Feet. Foreman Roasted to Cinder While Attempting Rescue.

NEW YORK, Nov. 20.—Twenty-five persons are believed to have lost their lives in an explosion of gas which tore up a great section of Gold street, Brooklyn, today. It is definitely known that 15 persons were buried under the hundreds of tons of earth and timber thrown into the air, and ten more are reported missing.

The exact number of dead cannot be determined until tomorrow, for those working to recover the entombed bodies must dig through 50 feet of dirt, rock and a tangle of pipes and timber.

Bodies Sticking Out. The explosion occurred in a 50-foot-deep excavation that had been made in Gold street, between York and Front streets, where a water main was being laid. The gas main sprang a leak recently and in a manner unknown a spark came into contact with the escaping gas.

Immediately there was a terrific explosion which lifted the surface for half a block in both directions, and shot dirt, paving stones and debris into the air.

When the smoke and dust cleared away it was seen that the street had been opened from doorstep to doorstep over an area of nearly a block. The loosened earth and debris had fallen into the excavation, burying the score of laborers who were at work when the accident occurred.

Great masses of flame shot out of the cracks, and beside them jets of water leaped into the air from a water main that had been shattered. Two bodies were sticking out of the wreckage.

Man Roasted to Cinder. Gold street was crowded with school children when the explosion occurred and that scores were not killed or injured is remarkable. A woman and three children were almost over the excavation when the earth crumbled under their feet and they were swept down into the

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THE ANNUAL NUMBER

The Oregonian will issue on January 1, 1909, an Annual Number of unusual attractiveness, excellence and completeness. It will be essentially a PORTLAND EDITION, for it will tell the story of Portland; but it will neglect no important industry or interest of the state at large.

It will not be a maritime number, but it will pay particular attention to the wonderful progress of the port of Portland during the year, and its present position as a great shipping center.

It will not be a real estate or "boom" number; but it will show the marvelous advances made by Portland in the construction of new buildings, in manufactures, and in productive activities of all kinds.

It will be an immigration number; but it will show what has been done in every variety of agricultural and horticultural industry throughout the state. Nor will the wheat farm or the sawmill, or any other phase of real life in Oregon, be neglected.

The Annual will have articles about things every one wants to know of Portland and Oregon, from men prominent in the affairs of the state and therefore fully qualified to know and say. It will have other articles by staff writers on subjects of interest and of importance to all who care to inform themselves about Portland and Oregon.

A special feature will be the numerous and beautiful illustrations, which will be new, artistic, finely engraved and well printed. The pictures will, indeed, be the most conspicuous and meritorious feature of an Annual Number that is certain to equal, if not to excel, the best efforts of The Oregonian on past New Year's days.

NAVAL OFFICERS ON GRID

Personal Misconduct in Japan is Charged Against Two.

MANILA, Nov. 21.—A court-martial with Rear-Admiral Stanton Schroeder as president and Major Williams as Judge-Advocate, convened on the battleship Louisiana today for the purpose of trying Lieutenant-Commander Jewell, of the Louisiana, and Lieutenant Bowers, of the Rhode Island, on charges of personal misconduct during the visit of the fleet to Japan. Lieutenant-Commander Jewell will be tried first.

MAKE GOOD!



WOULD ABOLISH LUMBER TARIFF

House Committee Has Strong Leanings.

WILL AT LEAST REDUCE RATES

Shabby Treatment Given Pacific Coast Men.

FORDNEY ONLY CHAMPION

Strongest Argument for Protection Made by Men Who Admit Owning Canadian Timber—Buttle Will Be in Senate.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Nov. 20.—It was strikingly apparent to Pacific Coast men who attended the hearing today before the House committee on ways and means that that body is strongly inclined to reduce, if not altogether remove, the duty on lumber. Chairman Payne, who conducted the hearing, showed glaring partiality towards those who appeared to advocate reduction or removal, and his treatment of lumbermen who appealed for retention of the Dingley rate was at times little short of brutal.

Of all members of the committee, he was most hostile to American lumbermen.

Coast Men Badly Treated. Pacific Coast lumbermen were shabby treated. None of them was given a hearing until 6 o'clock this evening, when C. M. Nibley, of La Grande, was accorded a scant 20 minutes. Lumber and shingle manufacturers from Washington were likewise shut off without full hearing, all in marked contrast to the unlimited time granted to those who want the duty lowered.

As a matter of fact, the strongest argument for maintaining the Dingley rate was presented by those who appeared in opposition to it. All but one, a theorist, are men who manufacture lumber in Canada and are seeking free entry to the market in the United States, and these very men admitted—under cross-examination—that if the duty should be removed the consumer would receive no benefit, for they believed the price would not be lowered.

Representatives for Free Lumber. Representative Fordney, of Michigan, is the only member of the committee who showed interest in the lumbermen's cause. He himself is a lumberman, representing a big lumber-producing district. Other Republicans, Mr. Payne in particular, appeared to favor removal of the duty. The Democrats are divided, some favoring removal, others reduction of the duty to \$1, the

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HOTEL BLOWN UP BY GAS EXPLOSION

LIGHTED MATCH DISCOVERS LEAK VERY PROMPTLY.

GUESTS IMAGINE EARTHQUAKE AND FLEE IN TERROR—FOUR PERSONS BURNED AND BRUISED.

REDDING, Cal., Nov. 20.—(Special).—At the touch of a lighted match gas exploded at 7 P. M. in a room in the third story of the Lovens hotel. The report of the explosion shook the four-story brick building and was heard all over Redding. The injured are:

Mrs. H. A. Jones, chambermaid; Walter Erskine, porter; John Rule, bellboy, and D. A. Lancaster, ex-supervisor of San Francisco, who occupied an adjoining room.

The injuries are confined to burns and severe bruises. Lancaster's eyebrows and hair were singed. Erskine is badly burned on the face, arms and hands. Nearly every vestige of hair was burned from his head. Mrs. Jones was knocked to the floor by the explosion. Her face and bare arms are burned, but not deeply. John Rule's burns were extensive enough to send him to the hospital.

The explosion was due to a leak of gas. Erskine lighted a match as he and the chambermaid and bellboy entered the room.

All the guests ran from their rooms and downstairs, knowing not whether they were fleeing from fire or earthquake.

CRUISERS ON LONG CRUISE

Destination is Believed to Be St. Pierre Island.

CHERBOURG, Nov. 20.—The French cruisers Admiral Aub and Gurgon today received orders to take on board provisions for a long cruise. The destination of these warships is believed to be St. Pierre, Miquelon.

DISGUISED SECESSION MOVE

French People Believe Islands Want Other Protection.

PARIS, Nov. 20.—The interpellation in the Chamber of Deputies by M. Guernier regarding the separatist movement that has manifested itself at St. Pierre, Miquelon, was postponed today at the request of M. Milloux-Lacraix, the Colonial Minister.

In an interview M. Guernier says that the troubles at St. Pierre constitute a movement for separation from France under the guise of religious agitation. The people are agitating their economic situation with that of their neighbors, and they believe they would be better off under Great Britain or the United States.

CANNON MUST BE SHOWN

Does Not Believe Taft Will Mix in Speakership Fight.

DANVILLE, Ill., Nov. 20.—Speaker Joseph G. Cannon's attention was today called to the story sent out from Hot Springs, Va., that Mr. Taft would oppose Mr. Cannon's re-election to the Speakership on the ground that "Uncle Joe" would not undertake in good faith a revision of the tariff. Mr. Cannon said:

"I do not believe that the President-elect will undertake to organize the House. In common with the President I endorse the Republican national platform and am entirely willing to abide by the action of the Republican caucus to determine the organization of the House of the Sixty-first Congress.

DEFINES FOOTBALL YEAR

Iowa Supreme Court Says It Ends With Thanksgiving.

DES MOINES, Ia., Nov. 20.—(Special).—Judge Weaver, of the Supreme Court, in writing an opinion relative to the contract of a teacher of athletics in the Johnson County schools, today defined the football season to be that part of the school year ending with Thanksgiving. The judge wrote:

"The remainder of the year of the university student may be devoted to the study of football, but the football season properly ends approximately with a general Thanksgiving." A contract involving salary and interest was construed by the court.

RUSSIA LIKES AEROPLANE

Wright Machine May Be Used by Czar's Military Forces.

ST. PETERSBURG, Nov. 20.—An effort is being made here to sell the Russian rights in the Wright aeroplane to the Russian government for military purposes.

The proposed contract with the Russian government is similar to that under which the French rights were sold to a Paris syndicate. Several Russian officers recently visited Wilbur Wright at Lemans, France, and it is stated they have reported favorably on his machine.

IRRIGATED LANDS READY

First Unit of Klamath Project Is Prepared for Settlers.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 20.—The formal opening of the first unit of the Klamath project, consisting of 31,153 acres, is announced by the Secretary of the Interior. Plans showing the location and area of farms which may be entered are on file in the land offices at Lakeview, Or., and Redding, Cal. Water right charges are fixed at \$5 per acre in annual installments of \$1. A maintenance charge of 75 cents per acre per annum.

SALEM PHYSICIAN IS SHOT BY THUG

Dr. C. H. Robertson Likely to Die.

IS WAYLAIED ON DARK STREET

Assassin Flees When Victim Falls to Ground.

OFFICERS ARE ON TRAIL

People of Capital City, Aroused, Will Try to Drive Out All Men Who Have No Means of Livelihood.

SALEM, Or., Nov. 20.—Dr. C. H. Robertson, one of the best-known physicians in Salem, was shot through the right breast by a footpad tonight, and will probably die.

The shooting occurred on Fourteenth street, one block south of State, at 8 o'clock. Dr. Robertson had been called to see a patient on Trade street, near Fourteenth and was on his way there.

As he was passing along the sidewalk near the P. E. Shaffer residence, where there is no street light, a man wearing a black mask suddenly stepped out of the darkness and commanded "Hold up your hands."

Instead of complying, Robertson turned and fled, whereupon the footpad fired, the bullet entering Robertson's back below the right shoulder, passing through the right lung and out of the right breast. Robertson fell, and the robber fled south on Fourteenth street. The doctor was laid bleeding on the ground five shots from his own revolver to attract attention to his plight.

F. E. Shaffer, Homer Smith, Supreme Court Commissioner W. R. King and others residing near by rushed out of their homes, and bearing ground went to the scene and found Robertson. He was carried to a nearby residence, where physicians attended him. Later he was removed to Willamette Sanitarium.

No Description of Assassin. As Dr. Robertson can give no description of his assailant it is doubtful whether the highwayman will be caught. Sheriff Minto, Chief of Police Gibson and Night Officer Murphy were on the scene a few moments after the shooting and are making every effort to apprehend the assassin.

Citizens Are Aroused. The shooting has created intense excitement in Salem and all along the streets.

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