



PACKERS SOLICIT SECRET REBATES

Disguise Them as Claims for Damages.

MANY RAILROADS DO NOT PAY

Claims Turned Down Unless Proof Is Absolute.

SOME GIVE UP READILY

Government Has Direct Evidence Against Morris—Some Packers Make Claims for Damage Caused by Own Cars.

CHICAGO, Jan. 1.—(Special.)—The opening of new lines of investigation by the Federal grand jury in its inquiry into the packing industry caused Assistant District Attorney James H. Wilkerson to abandon the holiday vacation he had planned today, and he spent the day closeted with W. A. Ryan, special investigator for the Interstate Commerce Commission, in an examination of records of shipments of Morris & Co. over several railroads. District Attorney Sims also remained in the city and kept in close touch with his office.

Packers Solicit Rebates. The Government's theory that rebates have been solicited by packers, though frequently refused by railroads, was confirmed by five files of damage claims furnished by a railroad this week. Of these five claims, which were for sums of about \$100 each, four were turned down by the railroad in question, which is one that is strict in its requirements that damage claims shall be supported by affidavits showing that there can be no question that the goods shipped were damaged in the amount asked.

A wide diversity of requirements in allowing claims has been discovered since the investigation began. Some of the roads require affidavits to accompany the claim, together with invoices and reports of the prices at which the goods were actually sold. Other roads have allowed damage claims on bare statements, unsupported by affidavits.

Some Roads Require Proof. The roads which are most thorough in their investigation of damage claims will not allow claims unless the goods reported to have been damaged have been inspected by one of their agents before delivery, an absolute requirement being that the claim for damages be made in time to permit this inspection. From roads enforcing strict rules it is not hoped to find that rebates have been actually paid in the form of damages, but it is the expectation of the Government that the solicitation of rebates may be shown.

Damage Due to Own Cars. Another avenue of inquiry has been opened in that claims appear to have been paid by the railroads for damages to meats shipped in cars belonging to the packer and that the question of whether the liability for the loss rested upon the railroad or upon the packer seems to have been ignored. If delay in shipment and consequent damage to meats resulted from a breakdown of a car owned by the packer, and if the breakdown was not caused by any fault of the railroad, it is declared that the railroad could not legally be held liable. The payment of damages in such cases will be considered by the Government as the payment of rebates.

HENEY NOT SEEKING OFFICE

Stands No Chance of Attorney-Generals if Desired.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 1.—(Special.)—Although close friends of Francis J. Heney were at one time urging his appointment as Attorney-General of the Taft Cabinet, it is not thought in San Francisco that the graft prosecutor stands any chance of being appointed. In fact, it is believed here that George W. Wilkesham, a prominent attorney of New York City, is slated to hold that important position with the coming administration.

FLYING CAR KILLS BOY

New Year's Revelers Run Down Newsboy and Give No Help.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 1.—A big touring automobile, filled with all-night revelers, ran over and fatally injured Irving Rovit, a newsboy, at an early hour today. The car did not stop. The accident was witnessed by several persons, but it is said no one went to the boy's aid until he was picked up by another automobile party and taken to the receiving hospital, where he died. He was 14 years old and the sole support of his mother.

JEWELS STOLEN; HOUSE IS FIRED

BURGLARS ATTEMPT TO DESTROY ALL EVIDENCE.

After Taking Fresno Man's Valuables, Amateur Cracksmen Bungle Work of Arson.

FRESNO, Cal., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—Burglars early this morning entered the house of John Soranno, a carpenter, residing at 1520 Calaveras street, and after ransacking the place, set fire to a bed and made their escape, leaving the place to be destroyed by the flames, probably in the hope that all evidence of the burglary might be destroyed. The burglary was evidently the work of amateurs, traces of their work even being found in the yard by the firemen, and later by the police. Mrs. Soranno lost a pair of earrings, a watch and chain and other gold trinkets, while Soranno lost his best suit of clothes and other garments.

Despite the fact that the fire was not discovered until 8 o'clock, the firemen are certain that it was set about 4 o'clock in the morning, and that the house was not destroyed therefor. The fact that the doors and windows, wherein stood the burning bed, were tightly closed and prevented fresh air from entering.

HEYBURN TO COME HOME

Will Look After Fences and Conduct Campaign Personally.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Jan. 1.—Senator Heyburn will leave for Idaho tomorrow to take personal charge of his campaign for reelection. Although expressing every confidence that he will be chosen by the Legislature, Heyburn has received many urgent telegrams from friends insisting that he come home and he has decided to conduct personally his own campaign. He was hastened in reaching this conclusion by telegraphic advice that Governor and Brady, State Chairman O'Neil and Thompson, of Lewiston, had formed a combination to defeat him and also to defeat Borah four years hence. Borah has no intention of going home, for he has no concern over any fight that might be organized against him four years before his term expires. Moreover, he does not believe a combination has been made.

VOLCANO ERUPTS AT SEA

British Steamer Sighs Boiling Water Off Georgia Coast.

NORFOLK, Va., Jan. 1.—A volcano at sea and a field of boiling water off the coast of Georgia are among the phenomena which British officers have reported to the hydrographic officers here.

While the British steamer Baltic was headed toward this coast on December 21, First Officer Landary observed what he reported as an "eruption apparently 20 miles distant, resembling a volcanic action." The weird disturbance lasted but a few seconds.

The British steamship Lord Dufferin on December 15 passed an area of boiling water less than 20 miles off the southern coast, according to the captain's report.

PAYS OLD AGE PENSIONS

Great Britain Starts Giving Away \$25,000,000 Annually.

LONDON, Jan. 1.—Postmasters throughout the United Kingdom have begun the payment of old age pensions under the payment of the last session of Parliament. Several hundred thousand applications for pensions have been received, of which 200,000 were disallowed, chiefly because the applicants have been in receipt of poor relief. It is estimated that the old age pensions will cost the country \$25,000,000 annually. The highest pension is five shillings weekly which will be paid to applicants having an income below \$10 a year.

ENDOWMENT FOR COLLEGE

Iowa State Institution Gets \$500,000 in Eleventh Hour.

GRINNELL, Ia., Jan. 1.—Citizens of Grinnell, at a mass meeting last night, pledged the last \$10,000 in a campaign by Iowa College for an additional endowment of \$500,000. It was necessary to complete the subscription of \$500,000 before midnight in order to secure a gift of \$100,000 from the General Board of Education and \$50,000 from Andrew Carnegie.

WATERFRONT IS SCORCHED

Baltimore Visited by Serious Fire in Warehouse District.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 1.—Pier No. 1, of the Atlantic Coast Line, at Canton, a suburb, was burned today, with 50,000 packages of imported merchandise and household goods, awaiting customs' inspection. Seven barges were damaged. The loss will reach at least \$200,000.

MOST FOREIGNERS FIRED

Chinese Railway Will Hereafter Be Run by Natives.

PEKIN, Jan. 1.—It has been decided to discharge all foreigners in the service of the Pekin-Hankow Railroad that was turned over to the Chinese Government yesterday. The board of communications says it is the policy of the government to protect the Empire's faithful servants, and about 80 foreigners employed on this line will be retained.

GREET PRESIDENT AT WHITE HOUSE

Many Thousands Wish Him Happy New Year.

ITALY'S GRIEF REFLECTED

Much Sympathy Tendered Her Ambassador by Guests.

CHINA NOT REPRESENTED

Recent Death of Imperial Family Keeps Special Envoys Absent. President Gets Lots of Advice About Africa and Hunting.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—President Roosevelt and 6000 people, representing every land and every estate and territory in the Union today, exchanged a Happy New Year greeting at the White House. For three and a half hours the President stood receiving his guests and when the reception was ended, last year's record of attendance had been broken by over 700. Many men and women distinguished in the official and social life of Washington were present.

A shadow of sadness was cast over the company by the recent terrible calamity which has fallen on the Italian people, whose Ambassador was present as the dean of the diplomatic corps, and by the absence of the representative of the Emperor of China, who is wearing a badge of mourning for the late Emperor and Dowager Empress of his country. To Mr. Roosevelt the occasion was memorable beyond any in which he has participated since his elevation to the Presidency. In the exchanges of salutations there were many references to the events of his career during the coming year, when he will face the dangers of the African wilderness.

Official Family First. The first greetings of the day were extended to the President and Mrs. Roosevelt by the Vice-President, members of the Cabinet and their ladies, without the least show of formality. These felicitations were exchanged in the private rooms on the second floor of the mansion.

While the Presidential party was gathering above there was another assemblage in the state dining-room on the first floor. There, in the prescribed attire of their respective countries, were the diplomatic representatives accredited to this country. The central figure in this company was Baron Edmondo Mayer des Planches, the Italian Ambassador. The greetings extended to the death sentences, 12 strikers were condemned to penal servitude for life, 48 to lesser terms of exile and 29 were acquitted.

These sentences grew out of the events of 1905, when strikers attempted to tie up the whole railroad system, telegraph lines and gas and electric light plants. The demonstrations at Yekaterinoslav were particularly desperate, many persons being killed.

ATLANTIC SERVICE TO SAN FRANCISCO

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE WILL RUN THROUGH CANAL.

Special Facilities Will Be Provided for Immigrant Farmers to Reach West.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 1.—(Special.)—One of the first steamers to go through the Panama Canal will be a big Hamburg-American liner, carrying immigrants direct from Europe to San Francisco. Agents of the great German steamship company have been in consultation with officers of the Department of Immigration concerning the facilities at this port for accommodating a big influx of immigrants. It is said that the plans of the company contemplate establishing a regular steamer service between Europe and San Francisco via the Isthmus of Panama. At first, steamers will be cleared probably only once a month, but as the patronage improves, and it is confidently believed that it will be characterized by a prodigious development, steamers will be run more frequently.

The present conditions of immigration are said to be unsatisfactory both to the United States Government and to the steamship company, inasmuch as Europeans who are distinctly agrarians and agriculturists, are unable to pay for the long rail trip necessary to reach suitable places of living.

It is also reported here that an early date an independent line of freight steamers between this port and Panama, where connections will be made with the Panama railroad and the Government line of steamships on the Atlantic coast will begin operations. The contemplated service would require 24 days between San Francisco and New York.

FEUDISTS LEAVE TOWN

Jackson, Breathitt County, Is Breathing Easier Once More.

JACKSON, Ky., Jan. 1.—Fearing that the Governor would send troops to Breathitt County to preserve order, the Callahan and Deaton factions today agreed to a truce and disbanded. Both bands left Jackson late today.

The compromise was the result of the dismissal of the warrants against Sheriff Callahan and several of his aides, who are charged with shooting Raab Sebastian and those against Govan Smith and two of the Deaton faction, charging them with shooting up the Callahan home. Judge Taubee's action in dismissing the warrants, it is said, was taken on the recommendation of some of the leaders in the law and order movement in Breathitt County.

PUT STRIKERS TO DEATH

Russia Passes Sentence on 41 for Railroad Tie-Up of 1905.

YEKATERINOSLAV, Russia, Jan. 1.—The military court today pronounced 41 death sentences, of which nine were for recent crimes. Thirty-two of the condemned men were strikers in the coal, who are charged with shooting Raab Sebastian and those against Govan Smith and two of the Deaton faction, charging them with shooting up the Callahan home. Judge Taubee's action in dismissing the warrants, it is said, was taken on the recommendation of some of the leaders in the law and order movement in Breathitt County.

While the Presidential party was gathering above there was another assemblage in the state dining-room on the first floor. There, in the prescribed attire of their respective countries, were the diplomatic representatives accredited to this country. The central figure in this company was Baron Edmondo Mayer des Planches, the Italian Ambassador. The greetings extended to the death sentences, 12 strikers were condemned to penal servitude for life, 48 to lesser terms of exile and 29 were acquitted.

WHOLE NATION IS UNITED TO SUCCOR

From All Classes Come Offers of Relief.

PRESIDENT MAY SEND FLEET

Congress Will Also Be Asked for Funds.

THOUSANDS ALREADY SENT

Italy's Catastrophe Touches Hearts of Rich and Poor, and Purposes of All Are Opened to Swell the Stream of Gold.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—Instead of taking a day's vacation, as had been planned originally, President Roosevelt will remain at his office to consider how best the Nation may show in a substantial way its sympathy with the Italian people in their great hour of need and distress. As an outcome of the day the President hopes to formulate a message to Congress to be laid before that body when it convenes Monday, recommending specific action on the part of this Nation.

The President has asked Senator Hale, acting chairman of the committee on appropriations and chairman of the committee on naval affairs, to discuss the matter with him tomorrow. For a similar purpose the President will invite members of his Cabinet, Secretary of State Root, Secretary Newberry and Assistant Secretary Bacon. The views of several leaders of the House probably will be ascertained during the day by the President.

Fleet May Be Sent. The question of the diversion of the fleet of a direct appropriation to be sought at the hands of Congress for the relief of the people of Southern Italy and other proposed plans of relief will be decided at the conference in the White House tomorrow.

Baron Mazyor des Planches, the Italian Ambassador, is working out plans for the relief of the earthquake sufferers. Thousands of Italians in the United States have suffered in an indirect way through the catastrophe.

Ambassador des Planches tonight issued the following statement: Indorsing Red Cross. "As the representative of the Italian government I desire to give the strongest indorsement of the Italian Red Cross, with which the American Red Cross is on the most intimate relations, and to say that my government places absolute confidence in this great national organization."

Admiral Pillsbury, chief of the Bureau of Navigation, said tonight that no steps have yet been taken looking toward using the battleship fleet for the relief of the people of Southern Italy. "He added that the fleet would be sent to the coast."

WILL GO UP IN AIR FOR HONEYMOON

COEYS HASTEN MARRIAGE TO ESCAPE CURIOUS CROWD.

Chicago Millionaire on Way to Los Angeles with Bride for Voyage in Balloon.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—A box of orange blossoms from California arrived at the home of Miss Carrie Hume Lewis about 7:30 o'clock last night. A few moments later, Rev. S. M. Neel came. A few moments after that Miss Lewis and Charles A. Coey, of Chicago, were married.

It was not to happen until Saturday, but Miss Lewis was afraid that the news of a honeymoon in the clouds of California would cause too much of a crowd at the ceremony. So they were married last night with only the family present.

Mr. and Mrs. Coey are staying at the Hotel Baltimore until tomorrow, when they will leave for Los Angeles, there to take their balloon honeymoon. Mrs. Coey has become reconciled to the thought of a honeymoon in the clouds.

BORN AS NEW YEAR COMES

Little Girl Arrives in Chicago Ambulance During Celebration.

CHICAGO, Jan. 1.—(Special.)—The first 1909 baby born in Chicago is a girl and she made her appearance in an ambulance, which was racing at a lively clip for a hospital. Her tiny ears were assailed by the terrific din of thousands of horns, bells, shouts of revelers, blowing whistles, shrieking locomotives and all other methods of making the New Year hideous.

Mrs. Mary Vletka, the mother, is 29 years old. Shortly before midnight she entered the West Chicago-Avenue police station and explained her condition to Dr. William Fortin, the ambulance surgeon. He placed her in an ambulance and told the driver to race for the hospital.

At exactly 12:01 little Miss Vletka appeared, while the ambulance was still half a mile from the hospital.

FIGHT ACROSS OHIO RIVER

Shooting Scrape Begins in Kentucky and Ends in Ohio.

CINCINNATI, O., Jan. 1.—During a fight which began tonight in Bellevue, Ky., and ended in Dayton, O., Harry Smith, of Cincinnati, was killed, Marshal Jolly, of Dayton, probably fatally wounded. Mrs. Lucy Jones and Henry Schulte seriously wounded. Smith was killed during a fight with Major Wilson at Bellevue. Wilson, with his two brothers, fled to Dayton, where Jolly attempted to arrest them. They resisted, and during the melee the three others were wounded.

EX-GUARD CHARGES MURDER AT BUTTE

Johnson Alleges Most Brutal Conditions.

SAYS FINISH FIGHTS ALLOWED

Appeals in Vain to County Court for Investigation.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY ACTIVE

Charge That Grover Duffey Was in Reality Murdered by A. E. Knause Will Be Taken Before Grand Jury—Too Cruel for Guard.

Charges that mismanagement and a persistent course of brutality at the county rockpile, resulting in the murder of one prisoner and the serious injury of several others, were presented to the District Attorney's office yesterday. As a result of information furnished by Special Officer Johnson, a guard at the rockpile, the police were busy last night looking for A. E. Knause on a charge of murdering one of his fellow prisoners, Grover Duffey.

Although Knause's term of sentence was not yet up, so the authorities say, he was released by Superintendent Briggs of the rockpile, and is said to have left the county. Briggs' name is coupled with the affair from the fact that he is alleged to have witnessed the fatal assault at the rockpile and to have made no efforts to interfere. When an order was presented from District Attorney Cameron for the detention of Knause, Briggs had to admit at once that he did not have the prisoner in custody, but explained that the fellow's time was up yesterday morning, according to his calculations.

Court Said Not to Act. Because of practices in vogue at Kelly Butte, Guard Johnson informed Mr. Cameron that he did not intend again reporting for duty. He said he had reported the facts to the County Court, which has the management of the rockpile in hand, and that court refused to take any action.

"Knowing that there was no way to remedy or better the fearful conditions that exist out there I have decided never to go back again," Johnson said. He is now on a brief leave of absence, and is in good standing, so that he may report for duty if he desires.

"It's hard to give up a good job in the middle of the winter," the guard said, "but I cannot countenance the things that go on there and especially the brutality that is permitted among the prisoners."

The alleged murder which is now being investigated occurred late in November during the strike in which the rockpile force refused to go to work because of differences with Briggs. All the prisoners were locked in their quarters without food and had not eaten for a period of 48 hours when Duffey weakened and suggested going back to work rather than be starved.

STEAMER BURNING AT SEA

With 17 Passengers Texas Takes Fire on Maiden Voyage.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Jan. 1.—With 17 passengers on board, the Norwegian steamer Texas, from Christiania for Havana, in eight five miles below Savannah, caught fire early today. The flames were discovered in the stowage. The Savannah Fire Department sent apparatus to fight the blaze. Captain Peterson commands the ship.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

- The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 33.9 degrees; minimum, 23.1 degrees. TODAY'S—Wind: southerly breeze. Earthquake in Italy. Italian Government reducing relief work to a system. Page 2. Loss estimates of dead exceed 200,000. Page 2. Ex-Census Price of United States and whole family period. Page 2. Standard Oil Company asks Missouri to recall dues. Page 2. Burglars set fire to house in Fresno after looting it. Page 3. Prohibition takes effect in three Southern states, three more to follow soon. Page 3. Coey marries in haste and starts with bride for honeymoon in balloon. Page 1. Hamburg-American line prepares for direct from Europe to San Francisco through Panama Canal. Page 1. Whitworth College beats Multnomah Club by score of 10 to 4. Page 10. Rangers beat Crickets at soccer. Page 10. Shillings wins great race on Woodcraft at Santa Anita. Page 2. Sacramento will secede from outlaws and join Coast League. Page 10. Dallas basketball team defeats soldiers at Minneapolis. Page 10. Pacific Northwest. Predictions made that Congress will have trouble if it fills all offices with personal friends. Page 5. Seattle post station stormed by New Year's mob. Page 5. Cottage Grove active in move for new County. Page 5. Portland and Vicinity. Ex-Guard Johnson charges murder and utmost brutality at Kelly Butte. Page 1. Relief fund continued. The \$2000 into morning to Italy. Page 10. Portland to spend more money in 1909 than in any year before. Page 2. Eastern business men will attend Portland Rose Festival. Page 7. Statement made that Congress will be hopeful of defeating McArthur. Page 14. Multnomah County Commissioners decide to build \$500,000 courthouse. Page 14. United Railways will complete Forest Grove line this year. Page 15. Oregonian's great annual number receives praise on every side. Page 14. County has large salary list. Page 11. French bark La Tour d'Auvergne chartered for outward wheat loading. Page 14.

