

RAILROADS HEARD, BUT TAFT IS FIRM

Spirit of Message Same After Conference.

TWO SECTIONS TO BE SENT

Trusts and Interstate Law Taken Up Separately.

STOCK "WATER" WANTED

Restrictions in Stock and Bond Issues to Be Recommended—J. P. Morgan Is Mediator and Nodded Railroaders in Attendance.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Following a forenoon conference with presidents of six of the great railroad systems, President Taft late this afternoon announced a change of programme in the sending of his message dealing with interstate commerce and anti-trust law amendments to Congress.

The message will be split into two parts. The section dealing with trusts will be sent to Congress Thursday noon. The section dealing with the interstate commerce law, in which railroads are directly interested, will be deferred until Friday. The President's special message on conservation of natural resources is expected to be ready for Congress Monday.

Each Part to Have 4000 Words.

Soon after the railroad presidents had left the White House, it was announced the President still hoped to have his message ready for Congress Wednesday. It had been his original intention to treat together the two subjects of interstate commerce and anti-trust amendments. It was said late this afternoon that the message probably would receive greater attention if divided into two parts, neither of more than 4000 words.

As a result of the call of the railroad presidents, it was said that only a few verbal changes would be made in the message dealing with the interstate commerce laws, and that these would make the President's position more clear.

Wickersham Bill Objected To.

Mr. Taft found the railroad men most considerate in presenting their views. While deprecating the idea of any legislation at all at this time, when they declared conditions in the railroad and industrial worlds are righting themselves, after two years of depression, they did not seek to deter the President from sending his message. They devoted themselves to more or less specific objections to the bill prepared by Attorney-General Wickersham, which forms the text of the message.

The President is declared will not attempt to force the Wickersham or any other bill upon Congress. He will say in his message that such a bill has been drafted and is at the disposal of Congress.

Morgan Is Mediator.

The railroad president admitted that their objections to the proposed amendments to the interstate commerce act were general in their application to all the amendments. The president, however, had made his position clear to his general counsel, and Friday morning, Mr. Morgan in turn arranged for today's conference and advised the railroad men to confine themselves to suggestions of changes in amendments rather than to an attempt to influence the President as to his general course.

Mr. Taft has let it be known he not only will make recommendations for changes in the law, but that he expects Congress to adopt the suggestions at this session and thus carry out the promises of the Republican party platform.

Those who attended the conference today were Presidents McCrea of the Pennsylvania; Lovett, of the Harriman lines; Brown, of the New York Central; Mellen, of the New York, New Haven & Hartford; Baer, of the Philadelphia & Reading; and Finley, of the Southern Railroad. The railroad president brought Lewis Cass Ledyard, of New York, with him as general counsel. The Attorney-General represented the legal department of the Government.

Stock-Holding Clause Changed.

One of the changes which Mr. Taft agreed to make in his recommendations has to do with the language of the proposed amendment prohibiting a railroad company from acquiring stock in any competing railroad in the future or from holding stock in a competing railroad after a given date. It was maintained that the wording of this proposed amendment was such that it might be held to apply to lines like the New York Central and the West Shore. The latter is, and for many years has been, a New York Central line, serving eventually as an overflow trackage system on the western shore of the Hudson River.

The laws, as Mr. Taft will suggest, will provide that where a railroad owns 50 per cent or more of the stock of another, it may acquire the remainder. This, it is said, would afford a measure of protection to minority stockholders, for

WALSH ENJOYING SOME MONEY YET

EX-BANKER WILL BE WORTH \$600,000 AFTER PAYING NOTE.

Debt for \$7,121,887.12 to Be Settled in Chicago Soon—Stocks and Realty Left.

CHICAGO, Jan. 3.—(Special.)—John R. Walsh, it was revealed today, will be worth between \$600,000 and \$750,000 after the settlement of his \$7,121,887.12 note to the Chicago Clearinghouse Bank, which will be effected within a few days.

Estimates of the wealth of the ex-banker, railroad and quarry owner have always varied widely. Prior to his financial troubles, which began in 1905, his fortune was variously given at figures between \$10,000,000 and \$25,000,000. The former figure, he disclosed by putting up \$14,000,000 in securities to cover his note, and the higher figure is discredited in the revelation that his assets after settlement of the note will not exceed \$750,000.

There is no way of computing the cost to him of litigation and settlements following the suspension of his banks, but his intimates declare it could not have been sufficient to reduce so far as big a fortune as \$25,000,000.

Stocks and real estate will make up the three-fourths of a million left to the banker for his life of hard work. Those who include his home, some Indiana real estate, comprising a small piece of coal property, and Chicago real estate and listed stocks.

He will probably dispose of his Wisconsin and Michigan railroad stock, according to those near him, and also of his "shortest belt line railroad in the world," the Loraine & Southern, in Ohio, which is only eight-tenths of a mile long and has four miles of track, all in the quarry section.

CALIFORNIA HAS NEW PEST

Insect Like Ladybug Lays Waste Many Grain Fields.

JACKSON, Cal., Jan. 3.—(Special.)—A bug, somewhat like the common ladybug, has made its appearance near here. In sowing a piece of land to grain, a number of sacks were left over night in the field. An examination the next day led to the discovery that each sack was swarming with small bugs with a dark yellowish back.

Other parts of this county were affected by the same kind of insects, it is believed, last year. The lands so visited were denuded of all vegetation, and the soil produced nothing for that season. It was as if a fire had swept over the surface. One large ranch had fully 100 acres so affected last year.

While there is no general appearance of the bug in the county, it has appeared in localities wide apart.

BROKERAGE HOUSE BLAMED

Stock Exchange Discusses Recent Rock Island Flurry.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—The Rock Island episode on the Stock Exchange of a week ago was the subject of informal discussion by officials of the exchange today. The report of the special committee of inquiry which will not be issued until January 12, holds at least one prominent brokerage house responsible for the incident.

Its part in the events of that day comes within the scope of the consideration of the exchange, which prescribes that "acts detrimental to the welfare of the exchange" shall be punishable on vote of a majority of the governing committee.

The punishment is fixed at suspension for not more than one year.

MARCH CAUSE OF MUTINY

All but Nine of Company Refuse to Take 15-Mile Hike.

FISHERS ISLAND, N. Y., Jan. 3.—Many of the non-commissioned officers and men of the One Hundred and Thirty-First Company, U. S. Coast Artillery, are confined in the guardhouse, at Fort H. G. Wright. It is said, as a result of a mutiny Saturday.

The company was ordered out for a march of 15 miles and all but nine men declined to do the duty. It was declared authoritatively today that a majority of the men in the company had been ordered before a court-martial.

SWIMMER DODGES ICE

New York Policeman Goes Half Way Across Hudson and Back.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—James Scanlon, one of the several champion athletes on the New York police force, swam half way across the Hudson River today and back again, his only difficulty being in dodging large cakes of ice.

Scanlon had a wager with another policeman for a swim across the river, and as his challenger failed to appear, Scanlon started without him.

SEAL RETURNS TO BE FED

Holmes' Pet Finds Way Home After Being Cast Out.

LONG BEACH, Cal., Jan. 3.—L. I. Holmes, of this city, purchased a baby seal from fishermen a month ago. On New Year's day he gave the little fellow its liberty, casting it into the waters of the bay.

GAYNOR BLOCKS FOOTBALL HELP

Gotham's Mayor Shows Humorous Vein.

HE BELITTLES GRIDIRON AIDS

Street Commissioner Edwards Let Down Easy, However.

RIDDER REFUSES OFFER

Newspaper Publisher Unable to Accept Park Commissionership. John White Succeeds the Late Tim Sullivan.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—The quips of Mayor Gaynor continue to enliven New York.

Today he sent the following letter to W. J. Edwards, Commissioner of Street Cleaning, better remembered as "Big Bill" Edwards of the Princeton football eleven:

My dear Commissioner: Take on a few more football players and maybe you will do better yet. Sincerely yours, William J. Gaynor.

The statement given out by Mayor Gaynor seemed to indicate that Edwards would be removed to make way for a new Commissioner of the Mayor's own choosing.

HOLD-UP MAN IS HELD UP

Barroom Desperado Loses Fight Against Five Victims.

BAKERSFIELD, Cal., Jan. 3.—A man giving the name of Hank Kennedy entered a saloon in East Bakersfield at 8:30 last night with a drawn revolver and ordered the five men in the barroom to throw up their hands, which they promptly did.

While the desperado was abstracting a purse from one man's pocket another of the victims jumped the holdup man, and the five joined in subduing him.

When searched a complete burglar's outfit was found upon Kennedy. His description has been wired to the principal cities as that of a probably much-wanted criminal.

MANILA HAS CANCER CURE

Treatment Consists in Immunity by Vaccine From Patient Himself.

MANILA, Jan. 3.—A conditional and preliminary report of what is hoped will prove to be a successful treatment for cancer was presented before the Manila Medical Society today. The treatment consists in making the patient immune from the further progress of the disease by the use of vaccine prepared from his own cancer.

Experiments have been made during the last eight months, both in cases where operation was possible and where it was not. A number of patients, apparently cured, were exhibited before the society. The medical authorities desire to watch these cases for an extended period.

(Concluded on Page 6.)

RAREBIT VICTIM'S DREAM REALISTIC

SEATTLE MAN GRABS CHAIR AND SMASHES FURNITURE.

Everything Real to "Fiend" but Burglars, Even Police Finally Coming to Rescue.

SEATTLE, Wash., Jan. 3.—(Special.)—Had it been a real burglar instead of his own reflection in the looking glass, J. E. Britt, proprietor of the Britt apartments, at Second Avenue and Cedar street, would have beaten the intruder to death with a chair, at 3:30 o'clock this morning.

As it was only the mirror was splintered, the chair made eligible for a long stay at the repairer's, a few minor articles of furniture put out of commission, and the entire neighborhood in general and the occupants of the apartment, in particular, frightened speechless.

It was Welsh rarebit that started it all. Mr. Britt got away with a lovely rarebit at midnight, and at 3:30 o'clock the nightmare was working beautifully. It was in that stage when two murderers were leaning over his bed with uplifted knives and the blood-lust in their eyes, a la the "melodrammers," when Mr. Britt let out the first howl and hit the floor with both feet.

"Wow!" yelled Britt, "I can go some, too; come on you assassins. There's never a law of God or man on the corner of Cedar street and Second Avenue, come on!"

Mr. Britt grabbed a chair. So did one of the assassins.

"Lay on, MacDuff," howled Britt, "I'm going to get first crack at you." He did. That was when the looking glass was cracked 40 ways from the crack. It was also when Mrs. Britt began adding her screams to the war cries of her infuriated husband and brought the neighbors and the police running.

MORTON MERGER CHAIRMAN

Levi P. Morton, president of the Morton Trust Company and of the Fifth Avenue Trust Company—both known as Morton-Ryan concerns—has consented to act as chairman of the board of the merged companies. No definite form Wednesday, when another directors' meeting will be held and the plan ratified by stockholders. The formal vote will not be taken until later.

The new move in finance follows the recent absorption of the Guaranty Trust Company by the so-called Morton Trust Company by the so-called Morton interests, but upon just what terms the merger was made is not disclosed. The Guaranty Trust Company was organized in 1891 and has total deposits of more than \$85,000,000.

Its Deposits \$45,000,000.

The Morton Trust Company, formerly the banking house of Bills, Morton & Co., was organized in 1899. Thomas F. Ryan is vice-president. Its deposits aggregate more than \$45,000,000. Like the Guaranty Trust Company, its capital and surplus are \$2,000,000 each.

The Fifth Avenue Trust Company, founded ten years ago, is one of the better known up-town financial institutions. With a capital and surplus of \$1,000,000 each it has paid large dividends. The capital stock of the new company probably will be fixed at

(Concluded on Page 3.)

\$150,000,000 IS BANK TRUST PILE

J. P. Morgan, T. F. Ryan and L. P. Morton Unite.

MERGER BIGGEST OF NATION

Guaranty, Fifth Avenue and Morton Trust Companies.

CONSOLIDATION IS VOTED

Alexander J. Hemphill Mentioned for Presidency—Deposits of Institutions Enormous—Terms Are Not Disclosed.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—J. Pierpont Morgan, Thomas F. Ryan and Levi P. Morton linked hands in New York today in a trust company merger which unites resources of \$150,000,000.

It is a triple combination, bringing the Guaranty Trust Company, the Morton Trust Company and the Fifth Avenue Trust Company, all of this city, under one head with the title of the Guaranty Trust Company.

The merger is perhaps the largest of its kind in the United States. Directors of all three companies met today and informally proposed the terms of merger which will be put in more definite form Wednesday, when another directors' meeting will be held and the plan ratified by stockholders. The formal vote will not be taken until later.

Morton, Merger Chairman.

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AIR CRAFT DRIVE BIRDS FROM FRANCE

FEATHERED FLOCKS FRIGHTENED AT AEROPLANES.

Comte Clary Declares His Country Faces Danger of Extinction of Winged Species.

PARIS, Jan. 3.—(Special.)—Birds of all kinds are becoming scarcer in France say ornithologists. According to no less an authority than Comte Clary, president of the St. Hubert Club, the danger of extinction of the winged species is increased by the use of aeroplanes.

"All birds were present during the aviation contest at Rheims and Comte Clary today, 'will recall that the behavior of the frightened birds, as the aeroplanes rose, was a picturesque feature in the early part of the week. In some cases they seemed to be paralyzed with fear, while in others they scudded away with loud cries. By the end of the week few birds were to be seen on the field. The same has been true in other parts of France where aviation meetings have been held."

The proprietor of a large estate in the South of France says that he has noticed the greatest alarm among birds, especially among wild ducks, on the appearance of a steerable balloon over their heads. It is feared by ornithologists and sportsmen that the advent of flying machines will cause a decrease in the number of game birds.

NEGRO REFUSED ENTRANCE

Deported From United States He Can't Land in England.

LONDON, Jan. 3.—A negro who claims American citizenship is an unwelcome guest of the Union Castle Steamship line at Southampton pending the outcome of diplomatic negotiations between the United States and Great Britain to determine the man's nationality.

The negro was deported from South Africa after he had been convicted of a crime and served a sentence in a British prison. He was returned to New York, but was refused permission to land there as he was unable to satisfy the authorities of his American citizenship. He then was sent back to Southampton.

The negro mentioned in the London dispatch probably is George Howard, 43 years old, who was deported from the United States on July 25.

WILLIS HAS CLOSE CALL

Ferry Cable Fouls and Drum Tender Is Injured.

HOQUIAM, Wash., Jan. 3.—(Special.)—A peculiar near fatality occurred yesterday when the cable by which the temporary ferry is operated was fouled by a raft of logs with such force as to unwind the cable rapidly from the drum on shore.

That the drum tender, Fred Willis, was not instantly killed seems almost a miracle. As it was, the rapidly revolving cable struck Willis on the arm, shattering that member and hurling the man some distance. The drums are operated by gearing and are for the purpose of lowering the cable to permit the passing of boats and rafts.

YEAR FREE FROM FEVER

Marine Hospital Service Reports Improved Conditions.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Officials of the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service are congratulating themselves on the fact that in the last calendar year there was a marked improvement in health conditions throughout the United States.

There was no yellow fever in the United States or in Latin American countries, which have been regarded as the source of contagion for this country.

The stamping out of yellow fever has been brought about by hygienic measures carefully planned in international conference and strictly enforced.

CHILDISH GLEE SAVES LIFE

Crackling Flames Amuse Little One, Whose Laugh Wakens Family.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Jan. 3.—The family of J. W. Nance and two guests were saved from being burned to death Saturday night in their home in Oak Park by the glee of their infant daughter, who thought the fire was more New Year's cheer in her honor.

Her mother was awakened by her cries of delight and found the house in flames. She grabbed the child and escaped just in time. The others barely escaped.

PATRONS SECURE DAMAGES

Passengers Win Suit for Voyage in 'Dirty Vessel.'

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 3.—Steerage passengers who sued the Northwestern Steamship Company for damages because they were compelled to make a voyage from Alaska to Seattle in the steamer Santa Clara amid conditions which they declared were filthy and uncomfortable, were awarded \$300 each, making a total of \$9000 by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals today.

MERCY WASTED ON GRIFFIN

Burglar on Probation Requested for Resuming Old Trade.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Jan. 3.—Governor Gillett issued a requisition today at the request of District Attorney Langdon, of San Francisco, upon the Governor of Utah for the return of John Griffin, who broke his probation by going to Salt Lake and cracking a safe instead of shipping to Australia, as he promised to do.

EX-BANKER MORSE BECOMES NO. 2814

Prison Stripes Replace Tailored Garments.

SENTENCE OF 15 YEARS BEGUN

Friend and Deputies Bring Him to Atlanta.

TREATED AS ANY PRISONER

Measured by Bertillon System, Given Bath, Head Shaved and Placed in Steel Cell—Wife Will Work For His Pardon.

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 3.—Charles W. Morse, ex-"Ice King" and millionaire banker, at noon today began serving a 15-year sentence in the Atlanta Federal Prison for violation of the National Banking laws.

He is registered as Convict No. 2814, and tonight occupies a steel cell, not in the least different from those to which are assigned several hundred other prisoners. His immaculate tailored garments gave way to a regulation suit of stripes, nor did the distinguished prisoner escape the Bertillon expert, the prison photographer, the regulation bath and the barber.

Morse arrived from New York at 10:45 o'clock in charge of two Deputy Marshals, an accompanied by his friend and close business associate, W. P. Reid, of Boston. He made no protest when the cameras of the newspaper men were trained upon him. He was placed in a cell and driven to the prison.

Because he had not been vaccinated, Morse was not permitted to eat in the big dining-room with his fellow convicts and his first meal was served in his cell. The prisoner turned over to the prison clerk \$18 in currency. He was assigned to "Class 1," which entitles him to the privilege of seeing relatives or friends 30 minutes every two weeks.

Morse will be busy with the tailor shop or put to work on the construction work.

Mrs. Morse, formerly the wife of an Atlanta hotel proprietor, is expected from New York tomorrow. After a conference with her husband she will return to New York to be busy trying to obtain a pardon from President Taft.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather.

YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 28 degrees; minimum, 4 degrees. TODAY'S—Fair, with nearly stationary temperature; easterly winds.

Foreign.

Aeroplane frighten birds from France. Page 1.

National.

Zelaya says he has national marines aided rebels in battles. Page 2.

United States Government.

Plans raid on business men's homes. Page 1.

Congress.

Hawley prepares lie land bill for Oregon. Page 2.

President Taft.

Hears railroad presidents, but still in the hands of Congress. Page 1.

National funds.

Give \$2,000,000 balance on credit side for the first time since Payne-Aldrich tariff law became effective. Page 3.

Domestic.

Mayor Gaynor of New York, wants no more football men in city positions. Page 1.

Archbishop Ireland.

Defends King Leopold's administration of Congo, denying reporter atrocity. Page 2.

J. P. Morgan, T. F. Ryan and L. P. Morton.

Form \$150,000,000 trust company. Page 1.

Charles W. Morse becomes convict No. 2814 and enters on sentence.

Page 1.

Ex-Banker Morse.

Will work 150,000 note in Chicago soon. Page 1.

Sports.

Jeffries fails to "convince" Chicago he has his old-time form. Page 4.

National baseball commission.

Refuses to alter purchase rules for minor clubs. Page 4.

Seattle wrestler.

Wins bout with big Greek. Peter Buzakoff. Page 4.

Pacific Northwest.

Two men who thaw out dynamite at Grant's Pass are blown to bits. Page 6.

Seattle man.

Proves real victim of rare bit dream and smashes furniture. Page 1.

Idaho has her first Mormon Governor.

In John Hart, sponsor of Idaho Senate. Page 6.

Multnomah County's valuation reduced.

\$4,000,000 by State Board of Equalization. Page 6.

Commercial and Marine.

Local flour prices are advanced 20 cents a barrel. Page 17.

All grains higher at Chicago.

Page 17.

Advances in rail ton rate causes stock selling.

Page 17.

D. R. Smith resigns as manager of Oppen River Trust.

Page 15.