

HITCHECOCK PLANT IS HUGE FIASCO

Nebraska Representative's Report Against Ballinger Falls Flat as Pancake.

RUMOR ONLY; PROOF NONE

Accusation That Secretary, When Commissioner, Made Room for Nephew, Refuted by Inquiry. Censure Due Accuser.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Feb. 2.—If the charges on expenditures in the Interior Department, which has been investigating the charges made by Hitchcock of Nebraska against the administration of the General Land Office, falls to nothing in a report to the House of Representatives roundly censuring Hitchcock for his recklessness as well as for his failure to make good his accusations, it will fall short of its duty to the House and to the Administration.

Biggest Charge Unfounded.

Perhaps the most sensational accusations made by Hitchcock was to the effect that when Judge Ballinger became Commissioner of the General Land Office in 1907 "he made room for his nephew, young Jack Ballinger, an attorney, by demoting Judge Wright, one of the law clerks, and was asked to pay him \$2000 a year to \$1400 a year, so that the \$2000 salary could be given to Jack Ballinger, who under the title of law clerk, but under the title credited by Mr. Ballinger's order of confidential clerk."

The committee after investigation, showed the charge was absolutely without foundation, in so far as it alleged any impropriety of action; utterly incorrect in point of fact and purely malicious in its purpose. But the evidence before the committee speaks for itself. Land Commissioner Dennett heard the charge, and was asked to explain in the presence of Hitchcock. "That statement," said Commissioner Dennett, "is about as accurate as most of the statements submitted to you gentlemen for your serious consideration. The man who was demoted, Judge Wright, Ballinger was appointed March 2, 1907, for 30 days, upon an executive order, to a position at \$1800 per annum, vice Judge Wright. Ballinger to act as confidential secretary to the Commissioner."

Man Discharged Replaced.

"On April 30, 1907, John Ballinger was made principal examiner of land claims and contents at a salary of \$2900 a year, to succeed an examiner who was removed from office. This examiner was dismissed because he was one of the men in the office who took bribes from Hyde and Benson, as he was testified and admitted in the Benson cases that were tried in the District Court here. He was one of the Government witnesses and was not prosecuted, though it had been proved he had been kept in the office for quite a time after his confession concerning what he had done, but when Judge Ballinger came there, then Judge Ballinger mentioned and he took it up with me and decided that he would not keep any man in the office who had confessed to accepting bribes, so this examiner was dismissed. Young Ballinger was appointed to the vacancy, and received the same salary the dismissed man received."

Commissioner Dennett went on to explain that there was no confidential secretary or "private secretary" to the Commissioner of the Land Office, and that Judge Ballinger, upon accepting the Commissioner's position, had a promise from the President that he could appoint his own private secretary, and he himself brought into the office under executive order.

C. E. WILL ASSEMBLE SOON

Two Thousand Delegates to Attend Convention Here This Month.

More than 2000 delegates are expected to attend the annual state convention of the Young People's Christian Endeavor Society in Portland, February 15-17, in the largest assembly of the organization ever held in Oregon.

All the sessions will be held in the First Presbyterian Church at Twelfth and Alder streets. The first meeting will be held on the evening of February 15, and the last will assemble the evening of February 17. A reception and banquet will be held at the Y. M. C. A. Monday evening.

A reception committee has been appointed by the local Christian Endeavor Union to entertain the visiting delegates. Reception booths will be placed at all of the depots and plans are being made to give the visitors a sight-seeing trip in automobiles.

Among those who will attend the convention are Dr. F. E. Clark, world's president of the society, and William E. Shaw, world's secretary, both from Boston.

Dr. J. W. McMichael will be in charge of the music. The Y. M. C. A. quartet will sing and a special hymnal will be issued for the meetings.

Professor E. A. King, D. D., author and co-ordinator of religious work in the Y. M. C. A., will conduct a conference on "Ways and Means." Professor Meyer is a noted organizer of the Purify League.

Addresses will be delivered by Dr. Drott, of the First Congregational Church; Dr. Fowler, of the First Presbyterian Church; and Dr. Reagor, of the First Christian Church; Rev. Charles W. Hurd, the state president of the Y. M. C. A.; and also address the assembly.

Albany Suffers Cold Snap.

ALBANY, Or., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The coldest weather in this part of the state for several weeks was experienced last night. The Government thermometer at Albany registered 29 degrees above zero and the night.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL WHO WITHSTANDS ALL ATTACKS, AND NEBRASKA CONGRESSMAN WHOSE CHARGES ARE PROVING BASELESS.



R. A. BALLINGER, SECRETARY OF INTERIOR.

COUNSEL TO APPEAR

Secretary Ballinger Yields to Pressure.

COMMITTEE SEEKING LIGHT

Cross-Examination of Glavis Called "Feeble" by Senator Nelson. Same Lawyer, Name Not Divulged, to Represent Dennett.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—Secretary Ballinger, after much persuasion, has decided to employ counsel to appear before the Ballinger-Pinchot investigating committee to defend his side of the case. Mr. Ballinger thus far had refused to engage counsel, declaring that he had nothing to conceal.

Lawyer Is Engaged.

The attorney employed by Mr. Ballinger also will represent Fred Dennett, Commissioner of the Land Office, and H. H. Schwartz, chief of the field service. Although his name has not been divulged, the attorney is said to be a Western lawyer and thoroughly familiar with the land situation as it enters into the present controversy.

A telegram was sent him today asking whether he would come to Washington. He replied that he would start at once.

At the close of the investigating committee's session Monday afternoon, Senator Nelson said the cross-examination of Louis R. Glavis had proceeded "feeble" because of the lack of counsel.

A matter of fact, the cross-examination consisted largely of questions asked by the Democratic members of the committee and designed to accentuate the political phases of the testimony Glavis had previously given.

Committee in Darkness.

Few members of the investigating committee have shown any familiarity with the records whatever, and Senator Nelson himself referred to the situation as "unfortunate."

The subject, it was said, was brought to the attention of Attorney-General Wickham to see if some representative of the Department of Justice might not act as counsel for the Government in the case which is under investigation. It was pointed out that the only way the committee could get at the facts was to have the case presented in the form of an affidavit, and that it was unfair to the committee to place upon them the entire burden of cross-examination to test the credibility of the witnesses.

Mr. Glavis, who has asked to be relieved from further attendance as soon as possible, in order that he may return West, will not be excused until the attorney representing the "other side" has had an opportunity to cross-examine him.

OPTION ELECTION IS TO GO

Call of Nez Perce County to Vote on Saloons Sustained.

LEWISTON, Idaho, Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The action of the Board of County Commissioners in calling the option election in Nez Perce County, for March 9, was sustained in a decision handed down by District Judge C. S. Steele today.

In reviewing the contention of the appellants, Judge Steele held that the attack upon the form of petition and the manner in which the affidavit was made relative to the signers being qualified electors, was of a technical character and could not render the petition ineffective. He said no showing had been made to the effect the petition did not contain the required 40 per cent of the voters represented by the vote for secretary of State at the last general election.

The contention of the appellants relative to the Lewiston special charter protecting the city from the county option election, was held by Judge Steele to be a matter to be taken up by the courts by injunction proceedings after an effort



Representative G. M. Hitchcock.

BOURBON ALARM SHAM

W. A. CUSICK COMMENTS UPON WISDOM OF ASSEMBLY.

Primary Law Scored as "Fraud" and "Duplicitous" — Natural for Minority to Protest.

SALEM, Feb. 2.—(To the Editor.)—The profession of alarm by our Democratic brethren over the declared intention of the Republicans to hold an assembly to suggest men of brains and integrity as standard-bearers at the state election is quite characteristic, and would be amusing except for its contemptible hypocrisy.

They did the same thing, at the first opportunity offered, after the election of the primary law, and their right to do so was unquestioned, but their virulent indignation and remonstrances knew no limit when the Republicans propose to do likewise. If it is now equivalent to a declaration that they, the people, hadn't sense enough to make nominations, was not the Democratic like performance equally so? If it is a wicked violation of law now, was it not equally so then?

Such duplicity is unworthy of self-respecting citizens, and will fail of its purpose of deceiving voters. If the Republicans in the various counties and precincts send their representatives to a meeting for counsel and to perform for them certain duties, are they to be deprived of a voice in the premises? Then, when their acts as a representative assembly of the people, come up at a following election, is it not the people to indorse or repudiate the acts of their agents by their votes? It certainly seems that instead of the people being insulted and foully robbed of their rights, that they are having the whole proposition in their own hands.

An individual who would avail himself of his rights under the law, and profit thereby, and then try to deprive his neighbor of equal right, on pretended "principle," would justly incur the condemnation and contempt of self-respecting citizens. The writer is not one of the type of complacent Republicans who believe the primary law "has come to stay" (without material amendment). Its original purpose was to destroy and render impossible the maintenance of party organizations. Now, as a matter of fact, every government worthy of the name depends for its life and progress as a state on the application and the utilization of certain important principles, which will most certainly contribute to the welfare and happiness of its citizens. As no two, even the most intelligent persons, ever agree absolutely, never have and never will, we must necessarily see that the divergency of views as to the applicability of principles and policies in the conduct of government parties will certainly arise.

It is in accordance with immutable law, and I think it is not extravagant to declare that the successful conduct of our government, state or National, in accordance with the letter and spirit of our primary law is an impossibility, and the said law is therefore destructively revolutionary, and in consequence will have to be amended. One of the basic principles of our Government since its inception stands for its party rule—the primary law, as it is practiced and construed, stands, without exception, for minority rule.

It will be remembered that antecedent to the enactment of this law,

There never was a time in the history of this country when a man could get a home of his own as easily as at the present moment. It is true that everything we eat and wear is high, but the demand for labor in all walks of life at a high wage was never so great as now. And as a rule the prices of building sites have not kept pace with other advances. At least that is true of Irvington Park, one of the finest residence localities around Portland. Our 1460 lots are surrounded by fine homes, and the advance in prices during the coming few years of one or two lots would be a small fortune. The time to get a home is when you can get it, when "times are good," as at present. Then when a reaction sets in you will be free of that greatest expense—rent. Call and let us show you the finest residence lots on the market at the price—equal to many you pass five minutes closer on the same carline, same fare, which are held at three, four and five times our price. F. B. Holbrook Co., 1 Worcester building, Phone Main 1396 or A 7607.

and at every election since, the very atmosphere has been resonant with the cry of the "choice of the people" and the "voice" of the dear people was more sacred than that of angels (until after election). Now, as a consequence, sense proposition, under this law, if the people want to nominate a candidate, he should come out of the contest with more than half the votes cast—if he have less, the people have declared they don't want him, by casting a majority of their votes for other candidates. It is a consequence, you are presented with a minority (even though he have a plurality) candidate as the nominee, in the United States Senate would be an impossibility; except for it, the Democratic minority with certain scheming Republicans (?) aided by certain other members of the Republican (?) caucus, George E. Chamberlain (member of the minority party) would not be in the United States Senate today.

Except for the standing invitation of this law for political dishonesty some thousands of Democrats could not have nullified themselves at the primaries in Portland and elsewhere in this state, to defeat the principle of majority rule, and Mr. Chamberlain's election would have been doubly impossible.

It is a standing bid for cheap politicians and moneyed demagogues (who could get a recognition in no other way) to rush to the front and secure nominations by petition, who, if elected, will degrade and debase the public service.

No one believes a moment that there would be any protest from Democratic sources if that party were in the majority, but having worked this line of false pretense, in two elections with some degree of success, and being justly dubious of their own party record, they would like to try it again.

Socialists, of course, protest from an inherent quality of mind and a fixed, incapable habit.

It is reported that a few members of the grange are distressed at the thought of Republicanism meeting in an assembly, to discuss and promote views and principles relating to the public welfare, yet they seem to see no inconsistency in them holding certain meetings for the same purposes of protesting. One finds himself wondering if the Republicans are wrong in holding assembly meetings for the promotion of their views, when they have the granges a right to hold like meetings for purposes of protest against the same identical views.

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SEATTLE, Feb. 2.—Sam D. Gray, alias Carl Ryder, alleged by the National Creditors' Association to be the most dangerous mercantile swindler in the country, was arrested on his release after serving a term in the Buena Vista, Cal., reformatory, and arrived here last night in custody. He had been pursued from Porto Rico to China and back by the association.

It certainly seems that Ryder reached Seattle and Portland with a letter of introduction to the wholesalers of both cities, written by J. W. Scriber, a banker of La Grande, Or. This letter, when confirmed, enabled him to obtain valuable goods in the two cities. These goods were to be shipped by express to La Grande. The letter from the banker said that Ryder had invested \$3000 in that city and would open a store there on receiving the goods at La Grande from Portland and Seattle, he repacked the two consignments. It is charged, and shipped them to Colorado, where they were sold. Six Seattle firms will prosecute Gray.

Gray's operations in the past ten years, alleged to have brought him \$100,000.

PORTLAND MERCHANTS GLAD Banker, Who Recommended Gray, to Be Tried After Hermann.

Sam D. Gray operated in Portland under the name of Carl Ryder, and is remembered by merchants in this city who were swindled. The news of his arrest will be welcomed by a score of wholesale dealers in this city who were victims in varying amounts from \$100 to \$1000. It is believed that \$4000 will cover the aggregate of loss sustained by Portland merchants through Ryder's false representations. Ryder pretended to open a furnishing store in La Grande and bought clothing, shoes, hats and other articles of male attire from the local dealers.

J. W. Scriber, a banker, from whom Ryder brought a letter of introduction, is under indictment by the Federal grand jury for forgery and other charges in connection with the wrecking of the Farmers' and Traders' Na-

tion Bank of La Grande, and will be tried in this city as soon as the trial of Binger Hermann is completed.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—Dr. S. B. L. Penrose, Whitman's president, announced today that he had received letters from J. Merrill Blanchard, football coach, who was taken back to Hillsboro, N. D., to face a statutory charge, in which Mr. Blanchard stated that he had settled the matter in a satisfactory manner. Other than making this statement, President Penrose declined to talk further in regard to the matter.

Local authorities have heard nothing concerning the case since Blanchard left here. It is understood, however, that the athletic leader will leave Hillsboro and arrive in Walla Walla soon, early today. The crew took to their boat and reached New York without accident.

The Home Furnished Complete Tull & Gibbs, Inc. Housefurnishings Sold on Easy Terms Morrison at Seventh

Breakfast Now Served in the Wistaria Tea Room, Commencing at 8:30 Portland Agents for "Modart," "Lily of France" and "Madame" Corsets

Especially Attractive Bargains in Waists A Clean-up of Odd Lots



A varied and interesting collection of Waists go to make up this special sale. Included are Lingerie Waists of mull, batiste and Persian lawns, daintily trimmed and embroidered, with the high and Dutch necks. Also hand-embroidered Lingerie Waists with embroidered linen collars. Also included in this collection are the Tailored Waists, hand-embroidered and in white and colors. Some are the perfectly simple, pleated shirt styles, with white and embroidered collars and cuffs.

There should be no hesitancy on the part of those who need a new Shirtwaist in taking advantage of this clean-up—the values and assortment are right for your choosing.

Lingerie Waists Grouped in the Sale as Follows:

\$1.25, \$1.35, \$1.50 and \$1.75 Waists... 88c \$1.95, \$2.25 and \$2.50 Waists... \$1.58

\$2.95, \$3.50 and \$3.95 Waists... \$2.58 \$4.95, \$5.50 and \$5.95 Waists... \$3.58

Tailored Waists Show These Interesting Reductions:

\$3.95 and \$4.95 Waists... \$3.38 \$5.00 and \$5.50 Waists... \$4.38

\$6.95, \$7.50 and \$7.95 Waists—\$5.38 Women's One-piece Silk Dresses—Values from \$18.50 to \$37.50 at \$15.00 Misses' Regular \$19.50 Colored Net Dresses at \$15.00

Today These Bargains in Aluminum Cooking Utensils

The "Wagner" make—very highest grade cast Aluminumware. Basting Spoons, 12-inch size, 40c values, at each... 30c

Handled Cake Griddles, No. 8 size, \$2.10 values, at each... \$1.70 Spiders, in two sizes—No. 8 and No. 9: \$2.15 values, at each... \$1.75

\$2.50 values, at each... \$1.95 Handled Sauce Pans—2-qt. size, \$2.25 values, at each... \$1.80

The 4-qt. size, \$2.75 values, at each... \$2.25 Lipped Kettles in two sizes—2-qt. and 4-qt.: \$2.40 values, at each... \$1.90 \$2.95 values, at each... \$2.35

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR RANGE-BUYING OFFER—THIRTY DAYS' FREE TRIAL—AND THE TERMS \$5 DOWN AND \$5 A MONTH

CREDIT MEN PURSUE Reshipping Swindler Will Be Prosecuted Again.

PORTLAND LOSES \$4000 Goods Bought for Alleged Use in La Grande, Or., on Banker's Recommendation Forwarded to Colorado for Sale.

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BUTTE BACKS SALT LAKE MONTANA SPORTS, 5000 STRONG, WANT FIGHT IN UTAH.

Movement on Foot Among Fans to Attend Jeff-Johnson Battle if Mormon City Wins.

BUTTE, Mont., Feb. 2.—The Jeffries-Johnson world's championship ring battle will be held in Salt Lake on July 4, next, if the plans and hopes of 5000 fight fans right here in Butte come true.

A movement was started last night by prominent sport-lovers, with Billy Gemmel at their head, backed up by all the well-known sport-loving citizens of the town, to form a "fight for Salt Lake" club which shall be 5000 strong in Butte and which may be swelled to twice that number by citizens of other Montana cities. There will no doubt join in the glad rush to the Mormon city on special train.

The whole town is talking about it and many petitions are being circulated, as follows: We, the undersigned, promise to become members of a committee of 25 from Butte fight fans which will attend the Jeffries-Johnson world championship battle on July 4, if it is held in Salt Lake. We also give our word to use all our efforts and to enlist our friends in the movement to encourage the promotion of the fight in the Mormon city.

Ballinger Would Aid Insane. WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—The draft of a bill appropriating \$75,000 for the care of the insane in the Territory of Alaska was submitted to the House today by Secretary Ballinger.

CUSHMAN'S NAME IS TAKEN BLANCHARD SETTLES CASE

Payallup Indian Schol Christened After Late Representative. President Penrose Gets Word From Football Coach.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—Honoring the memory of the late Representative Cushman, of Washington, Secretary Ballinger has approved the recommendation of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs that the name of the Payallup Indian School at Tacoma, Wash., be changed to the Cushman Indian School.

Mr. Cushman took a deep interest in building the school. BOOTH BAY HARBOR, Maine, Feb. 2.—The three-masted schooner J. Henry Edmunds, of this port, was sunk by a tow of barges off Sandy Hook, N. J., early today. The crew took to their boat and reached New York without accident.

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