



HOUSE IS QUICK TO UPHOLD PRESIDENT

Notice to Russia Is Made Complete.

EFFECT ON TRADE DISCUSSED

Breach in Diplomatic Relations Is Improbable.

NEW TREATY NOT HURRIED

Official Reply Indicates That Modification of Language of Resolution Has Found Favor in St. Petersburg.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Congress today ratified the President's notification of the termination of the Russian treaty of 1832 and sent the message to the President for his signature. The House disposed of it according to programme within 15 minutes.

Speaker Clark signed it at 2:45 P. M.; Vice-President Sherman signed it at 3:31 P. M., after the Senate had remained in session purposely to permit him, under the rules, to affix his signature while it was in session. Congress adjourned at 4:30 P. M.

The official reply to the Russian note, which was an important factor in the expedition of the ratification, was a perfunctory proceeding in the House, for Democrats and Republicans voted together, Macon of Arkansas (Dem.) alone voting in the negative. He explained to the House later that he voted against the resolution in a spirit of levity.

Sulzer Called Patriot.

In the debate Republicans joined with their political opponents in tribute to Representative Sulzer of New York, the Democratic author of the House bill, for accepting the Senate measure amending his own.

"Mr. Sulzer has shown that he is acting through the promptings of patriotism, not politics," Republican Leader Mann said.

The Russian reply to the notice from Ambassador Guild that America wished to terminate the treaty of 1832 has been received at the State Department. The officials decline to publish the text of the note, but admit that its contents have been well outlined in the news dispatches from St. Petersburg. Hence it is inferred that the Russian foreign office made no response to Secretary Knox's invitation to embark on negotiations for a new treaty.

Russia Not to Be Hurried.

It may be said upon good authority that the Russian government does not intend to be hurried in this matter, but on the other hand, it does not expect to conclude a new convention before the existing treaty expires on December 21, 1912. Unquestionably the modification of the terms of the original resolution of abrogation has been a strong factor in influencing the Russian government to consider favorably the framing of a new treaty.

Notwithstanding some expressions to the contrary by individual Senators, the weight of official opinion is decidedly in favor of the contention that, with the withdrawal of the "favored nation" treatment guaranteed to American imports into Russia by the treaty about to be terminated, the full maximum Russian tariff rates will automatically become effective against American goods.

Diplomatic Break Unlikely.

It has been suggested, however, that Russia will continue to extend to American imports the lower rates of its tariff on the ground that the President's proclamation issued last December 21, 1911, unquestionably the modification of the terms of the original resolution of abrogation has been a strong factor in influencing the Russian government to consider favorably the framing of a new treaty.

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SHUSTER MAY HAVE TO GO

Dismissal of Treasurer-General Is Foreshadowed.

TEHRAN, Dec. 20.—The cabinet has won an important victory over the national council which fore shadows the acceptance of Russia's demand for the dismissal of W. Morgan Shuster, the American Treasurer-General of Persia, unless public opinion proves too strong.

The national council, in a session that lasted from 8 o'clock last night until after midnight, finally accepted the proposal to appoint a commission of five deputies with plenary powers to deal with the Russian ultimatum. Sixty members were present and the proposal was submitted by Vosough-Eddowleh, the Foreign Minister, and was adopted by a vote of 29 to 19.

The composition of the commission has not yet been announced.

Vosough-Eddowleh's proposal was hotly opposed by the democrats, who declared that such a commission was in violation of the constitution. It is said that the Regent, Nasir El Mulk, earlier in the day summoned the ministers and threatened to resign unless the cabinet's proposal was accepted.

GIRLS BARTERED FOR GOLD IS CRY

RUSSIAN MISS WHO WANTS TO WED AMERICAN TELLS.

Elsie Navikoff Braves Eyes of Her People as She Accuses Them of Illicit Auctions.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 20.—(Special.)—Declaring bitterly that the local Russian colony of 2000 is a marriage market wherein young girls are bartered for their parents like so many cattle, Elsie Navikoff braved a hundred pairs of eyes in Judge Wilbur's court today and screamed that she would bar the secrets of her people rather than submit.

Beside her stood Raynor Hallack, a sturdy American, who served five years in the Navy and to whom she clung because she loves him and he wants to marry her. She is 17, educated, Americanized and pretty, the daughter of John Navikoff, and she asserted that her father and mother had sold her for \$2500 gold to a man she had never seen, so she ran away. That is why she was before the Judge in juvenile court.

The girl's testimony constitutes a sensational chapter as any ever heard in a local court. She asserted, and offered to prove, that there are 600 young Russian girls for sale here at an average price of \$1000 to men wanting wives; that their parents are the sellers and the highest bidders the buyers; that the personal charms of girls are inventoried like the points of livestock and constitute the criterion of sale.

Her frail form shaking with the intensity of her feelings, she flung the details of a score of Russian patriarchs present back into their teeth. Judge Wilbur continued the case and a thorough investigation of the colony will be made.

Officers of the court declare the girl's statements are true.

MID-STATE TOUR BEGINS

President Farrell, of O.-W. R. & N., and Other Officials Depart.

J. D. Farrell, president of the O.-W. R. & N. Company, left Portland on a special train last night on his first trip into Central Oregon. He was accompanied by J. P. O'Brien, general manager; William Bolman, general superintendent, and other officials.

The party will stop at various points on the Deschutes line, then will return to the main line and will cover the Shanks, Condon and Heppner branches. They will investigate conditions in the four counties visited—Crook, Gilliam, Morrow and Sherman—and will endeavor to meet some of the people there.

With the completion of this trip Mr. Farrell will have covered all the main lines and branches within his jurisdiction. It is his purpose and his policy to keep in close and constant touch with every portion of the O.-W. R. & N. system. He has been eager to visit Central Oregon ever since coming here.

PORTLAND CARGOES LARGE

Vessels Going to Los Angeles Are Taxed to Limit.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 20.—(Special.)—Ocean freight and passenger traffic to Los Angeles is greater now than ever before in the history of the city, and local steamship agents declare that their accommodations are taxed at the present time to the fullest extent.

D. W. Ferguson, local agent for the North Pacific Steamship Company, which operates a line of steamers between this port and Portland, said today that during the past two months the amount of freight brought from Portland here by his line has increased at least 200 per cent and that, while the passenger traffic has not increased to that extent, it is the heaviest in the history of the company.

"The freight and passenger traffic from Portland is much better than ever before, far beyond anything we had expected," said Mr. Ferguson.

Charles Krueger, agent for the San Francisco & Portland Steamship Company, has a similar story to tell.

CAT'S BITE PROVES COSTLY

Raymond Man May Ask Insurance Commission for Aid.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Dec. 20.—Because a cat bit his finger when he was at work, Alexander Matulis, of Raymond, is slated to draw compensation from the state accident fund. He was employed at \$4 a day, piling lumber at a Raymond mill. On November 25 he tried to lift a cat out of the way, so it would not be hurt by the planking, and the feline bit his right index finger to the bone.

The injury was dressed, and, after reporting the accident to the State Industrial Insurance Commission, he returned to work. On December 13, according to a new report, the injured finger was badly injured by a stick of timber. It is badly inflamed, and he is in the hospital. The attending physician reports that the man probably will be off duty for four weeks, and possibly longer. A wife and four children are dependent upon him for support.

TRIPLE HOLIDAY DECLARED

Wall Street to Observe Christmas From Friday to Tuesday.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Christmas is to be celebrated in Wall street by a triple holiday.

The directors of the stock exchange voted today to close the exchange on Saturday, so that business will be suspended between Friday afternoon and Tuesday morning.

"OLD GUARDSMEN" RALLYING TO TAFT

Pledges of New York Support Given.

LEADERS HOLD CONFERENCE

Root and Loeb to Direct Pre-Convention Campaign.

PRESIDENT GOES SHOPPING

Automobilists Told of Opposition to Opening National Treasury to Expensive System of National Roads.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—President Taft today held a political conference with New York leaders. In the 30 hours of his visit here he spoke at four dinners, laid the cornerstone of a new home for the blind and did some Christmas shopping.

Among his political callers were Senator Root, William Loeb, Jr., and Otto Barnard. It is said that Root and Loeb were chosen definitely to head the movement in this state for the President's re-nomination. Since Mr. Taft arrived there has been a general looking of the "Old Guard" to his standard. William Barnes, Jr., however, was not in the city and did not meet the President. Colonel Roosevelt had gone to Oyster Bay and, although he returned to New York tonight, he did so only to attend a private dinner.

The President's last speech was before the New York Young Republican Club at a dinner given in his honor. He appeared just as Senator Borah of Idaho was scheduled to speak and listened attentively to the stirring address by the Western Senator.

Way to Reform Two-Fold.

The President in an optimistic speech agreed with Senator Borah that the country had defects, and concluded: "Effective reform can be made in two ways, either inside the party or by the breaking up of the old party and the founding of a new one. The question for every man is: Has the party to which he is attached the material in it to carry out his idea for reform, or is it necessary for him to join a new party to gain them? I still have hope for the redemption of the Republican party."

Before making his speech to the Young Republican Club, President Taft joined 1500 members and guests of the Automobile Club of America at their banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria, and for half an hour or more talked to them in such a genial vein that they were kept almost constantly either laughing or applauding.

He took occasion to declare himself

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Commercial and Marine. Larger movement in spot and contract hops. Page 21. Wheat declines at Chicago on subsidence of Argentine score. Page 21. German banks heavy borrowers of funds at New York. Page 21. Priss steer brings \$10 hundred at stock yards. Page 21. Reawakening in grain-charter market predicted. Page 20.

National. Packers surprise Government with new contentions for acquittal. Page 4. Congress completes ratification of Taft's act abrogating Russian treaty. Page 1. Interstate Commerce Commission report says tariffs intended to develop Pacific Coast arrests interior and is wrong. Page 3. Commerce commission says Portland is natural meat packing center. Page 1. Congress leaders differ as to wool tariff programme. Page 2. President recommends lower tariff on wools, based on difference in costs. Page 2.

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Pacific Northwest. Grant B. Dimick declares single tax plan is to shift burden from capital to farmers and small owners. Page 3. Nathan B. Harvey, Milwaukee surgeon, is charged with murder of Hill family at Ardenwald. Page 15. McKinville man may be candidate for Senate to succeed Chamberlain. Page 13. Water-users of country get together on reform plan. Page 2. Abandoning Oregon hotel clerk, Charles W. Jones, arrested at Spokane. Page 4. Governor's trip proves grand success and means much for West, says Oregon Executive. Page 9.

Portland and Vicinity. F. D. Robinson, general freight agent of O.-W. R. & N., finds self promoted on return from Chicago. Page 20. Mrs. N. B. Harvey says she knows husband did not kill Hill family. Page 15. Leber reports that he saw Lechard at 3 o'clock in morning near scene of murder of child. Page 14. Gipsy Smith passes hour in Portland on way to San Francisco. Page 12. Prospective bridegroom, jilted, applies to court for return of marriage license fee. Page 1.

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PORTLAND MAN IS NAMED

E. T. Allen Appointed to Conservation Congress Committee.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 20.—John E. White, president of the Conservation Congress, today named committees for the ensuing year. Among his appointments are George C. Pardee, California, executive committee; David Starr Jordan, Palo Alto, Cal., education; and E. T. Allen, Portland, Or., and E. C. Griggs, Tacoma, Wash.

PATROLMAN SHOT; ASSAILANT FALLS

Street Duel May Be Fatal to Ruffian.

OFFICER HEWSTON IN BATTLE

"Tacoma Kid," Attacker, Is Caught by Captain Keller.

QUERY ANSWERED BY SHOT

Confessed Criminal Fires on Policeman When Asked His Business. Although Probably Fatally Hit, He Runs Before Fleeing.

Patrolman Charles E. Hewston, of the second night relief, shot and perhaps fatally wounded the "Tacoma Kid," a confessed robber, and was himself seriously wounded in a spirited gunfight at First and Hall streets in the darkness at 1:15 this morning.

Both men emptied their revolvers at each other. Hewston was the first to fall and was carried to the hospital in the belief that he had missed his man, who escaped after the encounter.

The policeman's wounds had not been dressed at St. Vincent's Hospital before the "Tacoma Kid," the admitted assailant of Hewston, was brought there.

Keller Makes Capture.

He was captured after a revolver duel with Police Captain Keller on Front street, near Clay, shortly after Hewston was shot.

When the fugitive dropped in his tracks after the exchange of shots with Keller, the police captain believed he had shot him but the "Tacoma Kid" said that Hewston had wounded him. He admitted having the duel with Hewston. He admitted, too, that he robbed Smith's market, Alberta, and that he came here recently from Tacoma.

The police say he was responsible for a series of startling burglaries in that city. These were credited to the "red-headed" robber. The wounded prisoner at St. Vincent's has red hair.

Nurse Finds Fiance Shot.

Miss Bertha Williams, fiancée of Patrolman Hewston, nearly swooned with fright when the wounded man was carried into St. Vincent's Hospital. She is a nurse there, and will care for her intended husband until he recovers. Hewston was shot in the groin, and while the wound is serious, the policeman's recovery is expected.

A sequence of exciting events came when Patrolman Hewston met a suspicious pedestrian on his beat and inquired: "What are you doing on the street at this hour of the night?"

In reply the man, described as large

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MAN JILTED WANTS LICENSE FEE BACK

DISAPPOINTED NEAR-BRIDE-GROOM IS REFUSED REFUND.

Albert Allen Volk Complains to County Clerk Parents of His Fiancee Took Her East.

Jilted at the last minute by Miss Alice Vera Swanson, of 250 Twelfth street, whom he expected to wed, Albert Allen Volk returned to the office of County Clerk Fields yesterday and requested refund of \$3 which he paid Tuesday for a marriage license.

"The young woman I expected to marry has been taken East by her parents," he said to Carl D. Christensen, cashier in Mr. Fields' office. "Now I want my money back."

"That would be impossible," answered the Clerk. "The money is already in the bank and a copy of the collection list has been given the County Auditor."

By further conversation Volk managed to give Christensen the impression that the young woman's parents were not included in the list of his admirers.

"Say," he finally asked, "would that license be any good back East? I am going back there."

"No good outside the state," answered the Clerk, "but it is good almost any time in Oregon. Better keep it and maybe you will have a chance to use it yet. How old is the young woman?"

"Twenty."

"Then it was up to her. She is her own boss and need not have gone with her parents unless she wished."

"I guess that's so, all right," returned Volk in a tone of dejection.

A young woman who said her name is Swanson answered the telephone at the Buell apartments at 250 Twelfth street, last night, but did not shed any light other than to say that she had no parents in this city. She said also that she is willing to make a Christmas present of \$3 to any young man who might have spent that amount in obtaining a license to marry her.

DECOY MESSAGE CAPTURES

Former Idaho Town Postmaster Must Stand Trial at Boise.

BOISE, Idaho, Dec. 20.—(Special.)—Charged with the embezzlement of \$6000 of the funds of the postoffice at Elk River, Northern Idaho, hunted and trailed through the States of Washington, Oregon and California after he had fled from Boise, a fugitive from justice, but located in Los Angeles through a decoy telegram, George Loudin was arrested by postoffice inspectors and arrived in Boise today, a Government prisoner.

Loudin was former postmaster at Elk River. When a special Federal grand jury was convened here in January to consider important criminal testimony in his possession, but which he refuses to divulge, Loudin's case will also be presented to the jury.

COMMISSION FORM WINS

Baker's Expenses for Next Year to Be Lower by 8 Mills.

BAKER, Or., Dec. 20.—(Special.)—Mayor Palmer today made public his first annual report under the commission form of government and says he believes that the new form, although beset with many difficulties resulting from inexperience and reorganization, has, on the whole, proved entirely satisfactory and that it is better because those in charge have given constant consideration to the municipal affairs.

He shows that the changes necessary because of the new government and improvements have caused an expense of 14.7 mills, while for next year they will be 6.4 mills.

PORTLAND BILL FAVORED

Appropriation for Federal Building Up to Senate Soon.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The secretary of the Treasury submitted today a favorable report upon the bill appropriating \$1,000,000 for the Portland Federal building.

Supporters of the measure are hopeful of getting the bill through the Senate soon after the holidays.

PORTLAND HOLDS SWAY IN PACKING

Natural Advantage Is Seen Officially.

SOUND'S PLEA UNAVAILING

Commission Will Not Grant Artificial Aid.

FREIGHT RATES ARE JUST

Business Being Developed Under Conditions Similar to Those Prevailing When Complaints Made Start.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 20.—Recognizing Portland's advantages over Tacoma and Seattle as a slaughtering center, the Interstate Commerce Commission today dismissed the complaint of the Carstens Packing Company of Tacoma against the O.-W. R. & N. Co., wherein this company sought to secure a reduction of the carload rate on livestock from Portland to Tacoma and Seattle from \$35 to \$25. The object of the Puget Sound packers was to drive Portland beef out of the Puget Sound markets, but the commission holds there is no unreasonable in existing rates and dismissed the complaint.

In doing so the Commission said: "The conclusion is inevitable that the complainant is seeking to have the Commission equalize Tacoma and Seattle with Portland as a slaughtering center. Doubtless due to her natural location, Portland has certain advantages as a livestock market and the testimony is that the prevailing prices of livestock are somewhat lower there than at cities on the Sound. The record does not show that this condition is due to any unjust arrangement of rates, and it is well settled that it is not the function of the Commission to equalize communities in matters of this character."

Rate Not Now Unreasonable.

"Testimony in this case is that the cost of transportation in the case of livestock and products of livestock is approximately the same and this is not at variance with our general knowledge of the situation.

Based on the same minimum carload rates for both movements of 25,000 pounds, at the per car rate on livestock of \$35 per 25-foot 6-inch car, the rate would be 14 cents per 100 pounds for movement to Tacoma and 16 cents to Seattle. When these rates are compared with the rate on fresh meats from Portland to Tacoma and Seattle of 20 cents per 100 pounds, it will be seen that at the present time the rates on livestock are lower than the rates on fresh meats. It is our conclusion that the adjustment complained of has not been shown to be unreasonable and the complaint will therefore be dismissed."

In 1905, when the Carstens Company began business at Tacoma, the livestock rate from Portland to Tacoma was \$40.50 and the rate on dressed beef 30 cents a 100 pounds. At that time the rate on fresh meats from Tacoma to Portland was only 22 cents. In 1907 the livestock rate was reduced to \$35 a car, and the rate from Tacoma to Portland on dressed meats was raised to 30 cents. Early in 1910 the railroads reduced the rate on fresh meats from Portland to Puget Sound from 30 to 25 cents, finding that the old commodity would not move at the old rate, but under existing rates, they proved effective, a further reduction to 20 cents was made, with a minimum of 25,000 pounds.

Reductions Are Voluntary.

The testimony showed that these reductions were voluntarily made by the railroad to build up business from Portland as a distributing center, and the Commission says that the complaining company produced no proof whatever to sustain its charges that the reduction had been made at the instigation of the "beef trust" with a view to wiping out the independent packers on Puget Sound.

The Commission holds that the railroads were clearly within their rights in lowering their distributive rate from Portland to meet commercial conditions peculiar to the territory to the northward, especially when it was found that the old 30-cent rate was prohibitory. Moreover, Portland packers today are building up business under a favorable rate in a manner similar to that by which Carstens Company built up its business under equally favorable rates prior to 1907. There was no complaint from Puget Sound then.

Now that Portland is forging to the front in the packing business, the Commission does not intend, on the showing made, to restrict the territory in which Portland packers may sell, even if under existing rates, they are able to invade Puget Sound markets in competition with Tacoma and Seattle packers.

In the East, it was demonstrated, the rates on fresh meats and packing-house products are lower than on livestock, whereas, under the prevailing Portland-Puget Sound rate, both commodities move at approximately the same rate.

