

SOCIALISM SPLITS ORDER OF HOBOES

Many Refuse to Follow "Millionaire" How and Organization Disbands.

CONVENTION IS FAILURE

Factions to Reorganize into Rival Bands—Vagrancy Laws of Southern States Are Angriely Criticized by Speakers.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 2.—The National hobo convention came to an end today and, according to official announcement made by President Jefferson Davis, the hobo organization, which James Ends How founded in St. Louis eight years ago, has been wrecked on the rocks of socialism and a thing of the past.

Davis entertained a motion, suggested by himself, and declared the hobo organization disbanded.

How continued to urge political and religious principles to the last, but the hobo appeared to be in a hurry to get away and magnificently uttered Jefferson Davis and never failed to join with the president in helping to howl down How and his cohorts.

Separate Organizations Probable. It is said that How and Davis likely will organize separate associations of the "migratory workers."

"A hobo is not a barhouse bum, a mere tramp nor a vagabond," said Davis. "He simply is a workman out of employment, who in the exigencies of his peregrinations is compelled to ride freight trains, go hungry and occasionally has to seek lowly employment in order to get a bite and a bunk."

A delegate proposed today that the hobo convention be held to "stop bulls from sapping" hobo who are merely trying to ride a freight train.

The resolution was defeated.

Vagrancy Laws Criticized. The vagrancy laws of Georgia, Florida and Texas were bitterly criticized today by several of the hoboes. One delegate declared he believed one-half of the men of Georgia are acting as deputy sheriffs.

How declared that he would pay only 50 cents a head and consequently hoboes are not bothered there as they are in Georgia, where the bounty is \$1.

Inspector of Police Reynolds advised the delegations to clear out of the city before morning or they would have to stay in the parish prison until after the Mardi Gras parades departed.

Hobo Union Planned. At the conclusion of a secret session of the leading spirits of the convention it was announced tonight that plans had been perfected for organizing hobo unions and affiliating with the American Federation of Labor.

F. A. Fitzgerald, organizer of the American Federation of Labor in the State of Louisiana, assisted in organizing the "International Hobo Workers' Union, Hobos of America."

C. Jefferson Davis, of Chicago, was elected president; J. Raymond Fredericks, Cleveland, secretary; and Peter M. H. Wynshaw, New Orleans, treasurer, and Robert W. Gillespie, National organizer.

James Ends How was barred from the meeting which effected this organization.

PASCO SUED FOR \$6438

Contractor Charged With Not Having Complied With Specifications.

PASCO, Wash., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—A. R. Garey, contractor for Pasco's new City Hall, has filed suit against the city, alleging that he has fulfilled the terms of his contract, but that the Council is wrongfully withholding part of the money due him for services performed.

Suit is brought for \$6438.42. Mr. Garey declares that he is willing and able to pay all claims filed against the City Hall by sub-contractors, laborers and others.

The city has authorized the employment of an architect to check over the plans and specifications and to complete the work, and Garey's bondsmen, the Pacific Coast Contracting Company, will be used for the sum necessary to complete the work.

The city contends that the contract has not been completed by that according to the plans and specifications, and that the building is not completed.

DEFENSE LEAGUE FORMS

National Organization Stands for Preparation for War.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—To work for a large Navy, an adequate Army, the improvement of the National Guard and for all things that will better prepare the United States for war, the National Defense League was organized here today.

Representative Kahn, of California, was elected chairman of the executive committee and to the board of directors.

While the league will work to strengthen all the forces which would make the country better prepared for war, it says in its constitution that it "believes in universal peace, but firmly believes that preparation for war is the best guarantee of peace."

TEN KILLED BY EXPLOSION

Cuban Hardware Dealer, His Wife and Children Among Dead.

HAVANA, Feb. 2.—An explosion in a hardware store at Cienfuegos resulted yesterday in the death of 10 persons, including the proprietor and his wife and their two children. Scores were injured.

The office of the Cuba Submarine Telegraph Company, on the opposite side of the street, was badly damaged and several employees were injured. The instruments were destroyed, resulting in the interruption of communication, which was restored today.

A large quantity of blasting power was kept for sale at the store.

FRUIT RAISERS FAVORABLE

Northwest Exchange's Proposition Is Liked at Wenatchee.

WENATCHEE, Wash., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—Growers of some of the fruits in the Wenatchee Valley generally favor the proposition of the Northwest Fruit Exchange of Portland to market the prune, peach and apricot crops hereafter.

A permanent organization of soft fruit growers will be effected. The proposition of the Northwest Fruit Exchange provides for the elimination of the bitter competition between the Wenatchee and Yakima districts. It is first necessary for growers of both big districts to get the indorsement of local associations and of the commercial organization, but this will be an easy matter, it is said. Growers here hope Yakima will not hold out on the plan, as better prices will undoubtedly be secured if Yakima and Wenatchee get together.

It is believed that eventually the apple growers could be united along the same line. The Wenatchee Valley Fruit Growers' Association has submitted a plan to market the soft fruit of this district, providing all growers will become a member of the association if competition between Yakima and Wenatchee can be eliminated through the plan of the Northwest Fruit Exchange, the business will be

BIGGER PACKAGES BY MAIL FAVORED

Hitchcock in Report Shows Desire to Lower Some Parcel Post Rates.

POSTAL BANKS SUCCESS

System Will Be Self-Supporting When Deposits Reach \$50,000,000—Penny Letter Rate at Expense of Second Class.



James Ends How, St. Louis "Millionaire" and Deposed King of the Hobos.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—Postmaster-General Hitchcock's annual report, made public today, tentatively suggests reduction of some parcel post rates and increasing the limit of weight beyond 11 pounds; recommends civil pensions for postal employees; an increase in rates on second-class mail, which may pave the way for 1-cent letter postage; the consolidation of the third and fourth classes so books and papers may be forwarded by parcel post and points out that during his administration expense of operating the Postal Service has been cut down \$18,000,000.

In course of a statement on the condition of postal finances, Mr. Hitchcock says: "The transformation of a deficit into a surplus has been accomplished, not by curtailing the service, but by developing it along profitable lines. While postal facilities have been greatly enlarged, extensions have not been made in a haphazard manner, but only when shown on investigation to be justified by conditions."

Savings Bank System Extended. The establishing of postal savings banks at Postoffice buildings was completed early in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1912—the year covered by the report. Since then the system has been extended to 407 fourth-class postoffices, as well as to 645 branch offices and stations in the larger cities. There are now 12,812 postal savings banks at which patrons may open accounts. The number of depositors is approximately 350,000 and the deposits aggregate about \$28,000,000, not including \$1,314,140 withdrawn and invested in postal savings bonds.

On the basis of the present monthly net increase of deposits, it is estimated that the gross income of the postal savings system for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1913, will amount to \$700,000 and the interest payable to depositors to \$300,000. The income of the system for the fiscal year will meet the interest payments and the total expense of the central office, but will be approximately \$275,000 less than enough to cover the entire expense of the service. However, Mr. Hitchcock's report says, "It is expected that when the deposits have increased to \$50,000,000, which at the present rate they will do soon, the system will be self-sustaining."

Larger Packages Favored. The report contains no references to subjects which have developed since December 1 and, consequently, the Postmaster-General's report as to the parcel post has to do only with the preliminary work of establishing the new system, which went into effect on January 1. The report says, "The parcel post rates are reduced, but that the weight of packages is increased to a limit above that of the parcel post. On this subject the report says: "While the postage rates for the new parcel post system are considerably lower than corresponding express charges, it is believed that experience will show them to be higher in some instances than is necessary in order to maintain the service at cost. Likewise, the restriction that places an 11-pound limit on the weight of parcels mailed should be regarded as merely temporary. The system is thoroughly organized on that basis the scope of the service in its usefulness to the public should be still further enlarged by increasing the weight limit. If properly developed under efficient management, the parcel post will prove to be a most important factor in reducing the cost of mailing."

Books Regarded as Parcels. Perhaps the most important recommendation contained in the report is that the third and fourth classes of mail be consolidated so that books and other printed matter may be forwarded by parcel post. At present the postage charges for these two classes of mail bear no fixed ratio to each other. For certain weights and sizes the parcel post rates are lower than the third-class rates, while in other cases they are higher.

"This condition," it is pointed out in the report, "is likely to result in much confusion and should not exist. Packages containing books or catalogues do not differ in any essential particular from other parcels, and they should be handled by parcel post. Prior to the enactment of the parcel post law the department urged that these two classes of mail be consolidated, and the recommendation of such action is now renewed."

The report directs attention to the approval of the commission, headed by Associate Justice Hughes, of the United States Supreme Court, of the Postoffice Department's recommendation that the postage rate on second-class mail be increased from 2 to 3 cents a pound. In the opinion of the Postmaster-General, favorable action by Congress on the report of the Commission should be made on a car space basis and the cost to the roads of the mail transportation.

The report recommends that "civil pensions, based on length of service, should be granted by the Government to postal employees when they become superannuated. It is likely that the expense of such a system would be more than offset by gains in efficiency."

DAM INQUIRY TO BE ASKED (Continued From First Page.) The investigation of the power project below Cello Falls, in the Columbia, and upon the passage of the resolution

CONFIDENCE MAN TELLS

"BIG BILL" KELHER WILL AID BANK EXAMINER.

NEW YORK PROSECUTOR INTERESTED IN

Report Police Lieutenant Profited \$50,000 Worth.

BOSTON, Feb. 2.—Further revelations concerning the looting of the National City Bank of Cambridge will be published here tomorrow. Most of these are made on the authority of William J. Kelher, the confidence man who robbed George W. Coleman of money which Coleman, a bookkeeper, had stolen from the bank.

"Big Bill" Kelher, as he is known, made a business of defrauding those who believed themselves to be his partners in a "fixed" faro game in New York. At the end, he says, his real partners "double-crossed" him and now he is willing to help John L. Bates,

receiver for the bank, to recover some of the stolen funds. In the new statement credited to Kelher, the confidence man says a large part of the stolen money was placed in a safe deposit box in Erie, Pa.

According to an announcement made here, District Attorney Whitman, of New York, is considering the sending of an assistant to this city to interview Kelher regarding the former New York police lieutenant, who, according to Kelher, is alleged to have profited to the extent of \$50,000 by helping the confidence man rob victims in New York.

Whitman is quoted as saying over the telephone to persons in Boston: "I will go to the limit to obtain any evidence of police grafting that Kelher may possess. In all probability one of my assistants will go to Boston and interview Kelher. Should I deem such action necessary, I will request Governor Foss to permit Kelher to come here and testify."

Thorpe Denies Oklahoma Contract. CARLISLE, Pa., Feb. 2.—James Thorpe, the Indian athlete, denied today the report that he is under contract with the Oklahoma City baseball

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE APPOINTED: SENATORS J. N. DAY AND R. R. BUTLER, AND REPRESENTATIVES ALLEN, H. EATON, J. T. HINKLE AND D. E. LOFGRAN.

At the request of Governor West a similar resolution was introduced in the Washington Legislature, and upon its passage the following committee was formed: Senators J. E. Leonard and Arthur McGuire, and Representatives Z. Stewart, N. B. Brooks and S. H. Rowland.

These committees met yesterday morning in the city and with them were Governor West, of Oregon, and Governor Lister, of Washington; John H. Lewis, State Engineer; L. F. Harza, of the United States Geological Survey, Portland; L. F. Harza, an engineer who has made a survey of the power site, and W. J. Roberts, Highway Commissioner of Washington, also joined the party.

These gentlemen left yesterday on the 10 o'clock train on the O-W. R. & N. The committee has the honor to be seated in the dining-room of the Hotel Dalles before 1 P. M. where, as the guests of The Dalles Commercial Club, they enjoyed a dinner, after which they might well brag about.

At 2 P. M. the party, escorted by about 100 citizens of The Dalles, embarked on a train on the Portage road and went to the site of the project, or rather to a point on the Cello Canal, now being constructed, just to the south of it, and about an hour was spent in inspecting the various points at and contiguous to the place where it is hoped a gigantic power plant will one day arise.

Much has recently been written and printed about this project, but it is by no means an idea of recent birth. Thirty years ago, in making surveys for the dam and the dam, the United States Engineers conceived the idea of damming the river at this same point and this dam was the result of the project, which would make it necessary to build a simple system of locks instead of a canal about eight miles long, as is being now built.

After the matter was taken up by William E. Morris, United States Engineer in charge of the construction of the locks at Grande Locks, Mr. Day was assisted in many ways by L. N. Day, one of the committee of yesterday, who was one of the contractors who constructed those locks.

A few months ago the State Engineer Lewis took the matter up actively, after sitting what information he had gained informally, it may be said, from the reports of the investigations of L. F. Harza and V. H. Reineking, prominent engineers, made preliminary surveys and estimates on the project.

The report of the investigations was embodied in a bulletin issued by Mr. Lewis about a year ago, such report being the groundwork for the present legislative investigation. Copies of this report were held by Mr. Day, who was one of the contractors who constructed those locks.

It is contended that any amount of horsepower can be developed up to—well, it is not known just how high of the dam. Mr. Lewis has figured that upwards of 300,000 horsepower can be secured at a cost of \$25,000,000. That is the minimum power at 25,000 additional would be available for eight months of the year.

The largest power plant in the country is at Niagara Falls. There the maximum is less than the minimum which can be developed at Cello.

If such a project is undertaken the only obstacles against generating the maximum energy is destruction of property, for a dam as high as the top of the canal would ruin that work, and by going a trifle higher the railroad tracks would be submerged. It is probable that the most economical amount to be figured on is about 250,000 horsepower. Even that would make the largest power project in the world.

As the committee, or rather the committee, for the two were merged into one, were returning on the train in an informal meeting and each committee will report to its Legislature favorably on the scheme and ask an appropriation of probably \$50,000 for a full complete and detailed survey and estimate of cost of the project, and it is understood Governor West and Governor Lister are in favor of the project.

In addition to this it is hoped to secure \$50,000 from the Interior Department, as the Reclamation Service is very interested. If the informal estimate of the cost of the project is \$75 per horsepower, at which cost the irrigation systems of Eastern Oregon and Eastern Washington would have to be cast.

Of course, the whole scheme depends upon the use and sale of the power. No one can complete the project unless the power can be developed, and economically developed. But can it be sold? That is the question of first importance.

On the other hand, it cannot be sold until it is produced, nor can any customers be sought or contracts entered into until complete surveys and estimates have been made.

And it is for this the money is asked. It is proposed to get the best engineers to be found in the country, and with these estimates as a basis, they are at all in accord with the present believed cost of the complete work, customers can be sought and perhaps capital found to undertake the project.

The party reached Portland at 8 o'clock last night, and the committees will make their reports today or tomorrow.

CHANGE IN SCHEDULE.

Oregon Electric Railway, Sunday, February 2.

Train leaving North Bank station at 7:35 P. M., Jefferson-street station 7:55 P. M. will be withdrawn. Train leaving Jefferson-street station at 11:30 P. M. will run to Forest Grove instead of Wilsonville. Train leaving North Bank station at 12:30 P. M. will run daily except Sunday to Wilsonville. Trains leaving North Bank station at 10:05 A. M. and 2:55 P. M. from Jefferson-street station at 10:45 A. M. and 3:45 P. M. will make local stops between Portland and Garden Home. Details and folders will be supplied at ticket offices.

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