

FOSTER KEEPS AT IT

Persistence in Appointment Matters Annoys President.

Turns Recommendation Down

Roosevelt Tells Him Flatly He Would Not Appoint Crocker to the Collectorship—Tongue Working for Portland Assay Office.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—Senator Foster is not having things all his own way in dealing out Washington patronage. In spite of his statement that the situation is today exactly what it was six months ago. For the past two months he has been persistently urging the appointment of B. D. Crocker as Collector to succeed Hustis, and at first had some show of success. Lately, however, when charges were filed against Crocker, and these were followed up by personal protests on the part of members of the delegation, the situation changed, and as much as two or three weeks ago the President told the Senator he could not appoint Crocker. Foster, however, persisted in urging the Walla Walla man, and today redoubled his efforts. It is known that his persistence has considerably annoyed the President, and during the conference today Mr. Roosevelt told the Senator positively and fully that he would not appoint Crocker. Whether Foster will now permit Crocker's friends to recommend some one else for Collector, or whether he will submit and consent to the transfer of Mr. Ide to this place, remains to be seen. It is believed by many that Mr. Foster does not personally care to have Crocker recognized, but he is bound, in a measure, to make the fight, and has done his best. Since the announcement was made that Crocker is not to be appointed, the Senator has been flooded with telegrams and letters from the Crocker wing of the party demanding that he secure this appointment, and this more than anything else accounts for his repeated requests that Crocker be made Collector. Unless the Senator abides by the wish of the President in this matter, he will undoubtedly lose the opportunity of naming the Collector, for his management of state patronage has, up to the present time, not strengthened his standing with the Administration—in fact, it has had the opposite tendency.

Working for Portland Assay Office.

Representative Tongue today made an argument before the education committee in support of his bill to establish an assay office at Portland. He said that not only is the total gold output of Oregon tributary to that point, but fully 90 per cent of the gold of Washington and a large part of the Alaskan product. He filed with the committee the resolutions of the Portland Chamber of Commerce favoring the Portland assay office. Tongue's bill was not acted upon.

Tacoma Mint Bill Reported.

The change committee today favorably reported Representative Cushman's bill for a mint at Tacoma. It is believed the bill cannot pass the House, although an effort is to be made to get a similar bill through the Senate, if it can be reported by the finance committee, whose chairman, Senator Allison, is believed to oppose all mint and assay office bills.

Estimates of Cost of Seattle Canals.

Based upon the latest available data, the Chief of Engineers estimates that it will cost \$3,200,000 to construct the waterway connecting Puget Sound and the Strait of Juan de Fuca. This estimate was sent to Congress today and it calls for a canal and locks practically twice the size of those considered in the original project. Seattle men in the city who are advocates of the project assert that a canal of this size can be constructed for \$2,500,000. These very discrepancies are what have decided the committee to make no appropriation until the engineers can say with more positiveness just what the canal will cost.

No Cuban Reciprocity Bill.

It seems almost certain now that the ways and means committee of the House will not allow the Cuban reciprocity bill to come before that body. The friends of Cuban concessions assert that if they could ever get a vote in the House, they would be able to carry it. The proposed scheme now is to tack on a Cuban reciprocity provision to the bill repealing the war revenues. One reason for the activity of the House in asserting its prerogatives is to fight such a provision as being an invasion of the rights of the House under the Constitution. But Senators who have been members of the House heretofore say that the repeal of the duty on tea affords an opportunity to amend the bill by a reduction of the duties on Cuban sugar and tobacco, and a prominent leader of the Senate today asserted that it might go so far as to reduce the duties on steel and glass and some other highly protected articles.

The Republican press continues to flay the ways and means committee for its action in making the sweeping war tax reduction and for doing nothing for Cuba. The members defend themselves by saying that they are simply redeeming the promises that were made that as soon as the bill is enacted the taxes will be repealed, but this does not seem to satisfy the papers that have been supporting concessions to Cuba and that assert that the committee is standing out against the President upon a matter which the Administration deems essential for the proper government of Cuba. It is said very pointedly that the ways and means proposition will send the party before the country with the charge that they reduced the taxes on beer, liquors, cigars, brokers and bucket-shops, while maintaining high rates on protected articles, such as iron, steel and glass, from which no revenue is derived.

Once a Wealthy Kansan.

TOPEKA, Kan., Feb. 1.—J. W. Rush, who was one of the most prominent finan-

OLD EMPRESS SWEEPS

Affected by Her Meeting With the Ministers' Wives.

BITTERLY REPEATS THE PAST

Says China Will Abandon Policy of Isolation and Adopt Western Ways—Mrs. Conger's Speech Does It.

PEKIN, Feb. 1.—The Dowager Empress and the Emperor sat at the

table and rings of great value were then placed upon Mrs. Conger's wrists and fingers. The Dowager Empress made inquiries regarding the other ladies who were in Pekin during the siege of the Legations, and Mrs. Conger, Bainbridge and Morris, the wives of Secretaries Bainbridge and Morris, of the American and French Legations, respectively, were presented and warmly greeted. Following the reception a banquet was given which was spread upon three tables, the Dowager Empress sitting at the head of the principal table and Mrs. Conger and Mrs. Uchida upon either side. The Emperor was the only man present, except Chang Tsi, prospective Minister from China to Great Britain, who knelt beside the Dowager Empress and interpreted what she said. The Emperor sat at the head of the second table. He and the Dowager Empress touched glasses with the guests. The Dowager Empress talked animatedly. She said that China would abandon her policy of isolation and adopt the best features of Western life and would send many students abroad. Afterward the Dowager Empress and the Emperor mingled with their guests and Her Majesty conversed with every one, and particularly with the ladies.

The relief expedition under Lieutenant K. P. Williams, First Infantry, was delayed in starting two days by the storm raging and the torrent in the river. It started on the 15th, and reached the marine on the 18th, saving Lieutenant Williams and all except 19 men not found, who are no doubt dead from starvation, namely: Private Tanguay, Foster, G. M. Britt, T. Ward, Brown, E. E. Murray, T. Butler, Bailey, Baroni and Connell. R. Kettle died in the hospital at Tacloban January 18. Captain Porter, Lieutenant Williams and 18 men are in the hospital at Tacloban. They are not very clear in mind regarding much of the time covered by the period of suffering. All will probably recover. Major Walker is at present disordered in his recollections. The suffering of this command for 29 days cannot be described. The efforts of Lieutenant Williams, First Infantry, and the relief party, are unequalled for courage and labor.

Movements of Transports.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 1.—The transport Grant is scheduled to sail for Manila February 7 and will carry many recruits. The transport Rosecrans left Manila January 24 with eight officers and 65 enlisted men and the Third Battalion of the Twenty-second Infantry. The Twenty-second Infantry is scheduled to leave Manila today, and the Twentieth Infantry February 18. The Second Battalion of the Seventeenth Infantry will stay at Manila until the arrival of the Twenty-second Infantry from this city.

MUNICIPAL CORRUPTION.

St. Louis Grand Jury Suggests a Way of Bringing It to an End.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 1.—The grand jury, which has been investigating the facts in connection with the attempt to pass a bill through the Municipal Assembly granting certain franchises to the Suburban Street Railway by the alleged use of a corruption fund of \$125,000, this evening rendered its final report and adjourned. Two hours before the report of the grand jury was submitted a bench warrant was issued for Harry Nicholas, director of the Suburban Street Railway Company, charging him with bribery in connection with the Suburban case. Up to a late hour tonight Mr. Nicholas had not been arrested.

The indictments which resulted from the Suburban investigation were against ex-Delegate John K. Murrell, ex-Councilman Charles Kratz and Emil Ameyensburg and Ellis Walmsley, director of the Suburban company, for bribery, and ex-Delegates Julius Lehman and Delegate Harry Faulkner, for perjury.

The grand jury's report referred to the subject of municipal corruption, saying: "Investigation which we have made into the corrupt method by which franchises have been obtained from the city and which have resulted in a number of indictments, have proved to us that this form of corruption is much more general than has been supposed, although the resort to such practices with more or less frequency has been known for many years. It is impossible for us to make a complete examination of this class of offenses, owing to the time appointed by law for our service, and the result which we have begun must be followed by the grand jury which will immediately succeed us.

"We believe that all franchises for the use of the city's streets should be sold to the highest and best bidder after due notice has been given, and that the plundering of the city of its property under the name of 'granting franchises' should cease, and the present system to be continued, much can be done to improve conditions. As the first object of all criminal law is the prevention of crime rather than vengeance upon the criminal, and as it seems that crime of this character cannot be eradicated until the conditions which make it profitable are removed, we suggest that laws be enacted which will provide that whenever a Municipal Legislature is bribed by the party or parties seeking the franchise to aid in the grant of the franchise, upon his or any one else turning informant and securing the conviction of the person bribed, the ordinance granting the franchise shall be forfeited, and the same franchise, including all property used with it and owned by the corporation owning the franchise, shall be sold at public auction, upon due advertisement, the informant to receive 25 per cent of the proceeds, the remainder to be paid into the city treasury. Under such a law, to obtain a franchise by corruption would render it practically valueless, and would be attended by so much danger that few would engage in this sort of corruption, and not without great risk of punishment and loss of property."

No Gam at Canton.

CANTON, O., Feb. 1.—Canton people are shivering today, owing to a break in the natural gas mains. Probably several thousand houses in this city have so far been shut out, and much inconvenience is being experienced.

RIVER BAR BUOYS

Needed Aids to Navigation at Columbia's Mouth.

LIGHTS TO MARK CHANNELS

Captain Wood, for the Pilots, Tells How Service for Ships May Be Expedited—The South Channel.

The buoy markings of the Columbia River bar was the subject of discussion at

the meeting of the trustees of the Chamber of Commerce yesterday morning. George W. Wood, representing the Oregon pilots at the mouth of the river, was present by invitation of the trustees, and showed what changes and improvements were necessary in the arrangement of buoys. He set forth a plan which impressed the trustees with its practicability. He was requested to draw up his plan in the form of a petition, to be sent to the Lighthouse Board. The proposed changes in this tangible presentation will be acted upon by the trustees.

China Pays First Installment.

PEKIN, Feb. 1.—The first monthly installment, amounting to \$120,000, of the Chinese indemnity was paid yesterday to the bankers' committee of the powers at Shanghai.

REMAINS OF SARMATIANS

Interesting Relics Found in the Province of Kiev, Russia.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 1.—The most interesting remains of the ancient Sarmatians ever discovered have been unearthed on the banks of the Rossi River, Province of Kiev. At a depth of two meters were found traces of ancient incineration, and near several charred bones was picked up a smooth, thick ornament of golden wire, on which was represented a scene with a number of typical figures. In the foreground sits a woman in a high-backed chair, holding a round mirror in her left hand. In her right hand is a cup, from which a bearded, kneeling warrior is drinking wine. He is armed with a bow and sword. Behind these are a musician, with a lyre; a youth pouring wine into a cup held by another youth; a priest, in long garments, with a sword held in readiness to sacrifice a sheep and a figure with a fan. The work is crude, but there are traces in it of Greek influence.

ALL ARE ENTOMBED

Explosion in Mexican Mine Kills Eighty-five Men.

DETAILS OF DISASTER MEAGER

Seventy-five Miners Are Still Buried Under the Debris—Shaft Choked Up by Falling Earth.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Feb. 1.—Eighty-five miners killed and 75 more buried under debris is the awful record made by a dust explosion at the Honda mines in Mexico, news of which was received here tonight.

At the time the explosion occurred there were 160 miners at work in the mine, all of whom were entombed by the shaft being choked up by falling earth and stone loosened by the explosion. Just how many are dead is not at this time known, but at last accounts received here by wire tonight, 85 bodies had been recovered. It is feared that the death toll will be greatly over 100.

The Honda mines are located at Columbia, the terminus of a branch of the Mexican International Railroad, about 100 miles south of Eagle Pass, and are the most important in that state. Details for the disaster are meager, no names of the victims being learned here.

DEPENDS ON MERGER CASE

All Work Stops on Burlington's Great Falls Line.

GREAT FALLS, Mont., Feb. 1.—An order has been received from Burlington headquarters stopping all work on the proposed line from Billings to Great Falls until the United States Supreme Court shall have disposed of the case brought against the Northern Securities Company by Governor Van Sant, of Minnesota. An official of the company, in speaking of the order, said: "It is true that all work on the Billings-Great Falls line will be stopped as soon as the Supreme Court reaches its decision. It is true that the case will be decided as soon as the Supreme Court decides the merger case. If it decides that the merger is legal, then this work will probably be resumed."

MARQUIS UNDER ARREST.

Swore Falsely as to the Age of a Young Woman He Married.

DALLAS, Tex., Feb. 1.—The police of this city have under guard a man claiming to be Marquis de Lucenay, of Calumet, India, and his wife, awaiting the arrival of officers from El Paso. It is charged that the Marquis swore falsely as to the age of the young woman he married in El Paso, January 2. The wife of Marquis de Lucenay was Miss Ruby Luckhart, of Los Angeles, Cal. She is said to be 17 years old, and to own vast tracts of land in Mexico and this country. The Marquis claims to be the owner of thousands of acres of valuable land in the Province of Tibet, India.

Franchise Tax Remitted.

COLUMBUS, O., Feb. 1.—The State Board of Tax Remission today remitted the tax placed against the Cleveland franchise corporations by the Board of Equalization on property aggregating \$17,500,000. They do this because the Board of Equalization, in adding to this amount the amount of the corporations' property, applied the principles of the Nichol law, which specifically applies to all telephone, telegraph and express companies.

SUMMARY OF THE DAY'S NEWS

Congress.

Governor Taft continued his statement before the Senate committee on Philippine conditions. Page 2.

The President told Senator Foster he would not appoint Crocker to the Collectorship. Page 1.

The House devoted the day to eulogies on the late Congressman Brewster. Page 2.

Foreign.

The Dowager Empress of China gave a remarkable reception to the Ministers' wives. Page 1.

Eighty-five miners were killed by an explosion in a Mexican mine. Page 1.

The week at the London theaters. Page 3.

Further details of the programme of Prince Henry's visit. Page 1.

Domestic.

The two Billers, Pittsburgh murderers, are dead. Page 3.

Mrs. Soffel, who assisted them to escape, will recover. Page 3.

Admiral and Mrs. Schley were entertained at Nashville. Page 1.

Pacific Coast.

Lively row at Cheney (Wash.) Normal School between president and two of the trustees. Page 17.

Provision for establishment of flax mill at Salem. Page 6.

J. W. Arransmith undecided as to whether he will accept office of Grain Inspector of Washington. Page 6.

Boston men will build large power plant on Grand Ronde River to supply Lewiston, Idaho. Page 7.

Marine.

Stagnation in ocean wheat freights from Pacific to New York. Page 2.

Standard Oil Company profiting by French shipping subsidy. Page 7.

German bark Lita will pioneer the February grain fleet. Page 7.

French bark Lita on route for Portland, disabled by the California coast. Page 7.

Portland and Vicinity.

Chamber of Commerce trustees discuss buoys for Columbia River bar. Page 1.

City takes over Albina water plant. Page 16.

The Port of Portland and its fuel contract. Page 17.

Eloping Tacoma couple set free. Page 11.

City Engineer Chase advocates First-street \$11; cost about \$15,000. Page 3.

Multnomah defeats Commercial bowlers four straight games. Page 13.

Features and Departments.

Portland Daughters of the American Revolution. Page 23.

Submarine boat to cross the ocean. Page 32.

Checkraisers defy every bank. Page 26.

Mr. Dooley's letter. Page 27.

Scrapbook. Page 27.

Questions and answers. Page 27.

What the courts decide. Page 27.

George Ade's modern fable. Page 30.

How birds amuse themselves. Page 28.

Fashions. Page 29.

Youths' department. Page 23.

Dramatic and musical. Page 18.

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MAKING IT EASIER FOR UNCLE SAM.