

FRENCH FINANCE RUNS PROMOTER

C. W. French, of Pacific Steel Corporation, Arrested for Fraud.

WORKS IN EAST ALSO

Some of Most Prominent Men on the Coast Involved in His Scheme for Organization of \$100,000,000 Holding Company.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 11.—(Special.)—In the arrest of C. W. French, promoter and head of the Pacific Steel Company, capitalized at \$100,000,000, on a charge of obtaining money under false pretenses, the hand of the law has brought up with a sharp turn a man, Pacific Coast capitalists and financiers declare has earned, by his meteoric career on the Western Slope and his record in Eastern States, the title of master rogue in the art of swindling on a monumental scale.

Among French's victims are some of the wealthiest men in Portland, Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles. French appeared on the Pacific Coast less than three years ago and represented himself to be the secret emissary of the Astor and Vanderbilt interests of New York, and also confidential agent of Andrew Carnegie and other Pittsburgh steel magnates. He is supposed to have tricked many Pacific Coast financiers since his first materialization here a sum approximating \$500,000.

The principal victims of French on the Pacific Coast are men who have always been considered as the most astute and shrewd discernment. Harrison Gray Otis, proprietor of the Los Angeles Times, was induced to lend his name to French's enterprise, the Otis Building Corporation, and in addition was loser by \$10,000 when he was forced to pay a note he had indorsed for French. Ulysses S. Grant, of San Diego, was tricked out of \$150,000 by French, a group of Los Angeles capitalists lost \$200,000 altogether, and other individuals lost smaller sums. C. H. Golder, who had French arrested, lost \$1000.

French's East Easy. In the East French is said to have secured \$500,000 from Zephero W. Davis, a Cleveland, Ohio, multimillionaire financier. At Akron, Ohio, he was indicted by a grand jury for issuing a mortgage for several hundred thousand dollars against the railroad of which he was the president while the railroad was in the hands of a receiver. The indictment was quashed and the case dismissed by the prosecuting attorney for the county for some mysterious reason.

At Pittsburgh, Pa. French, it is declared, got into trouble for fraudulently representing that the Union Trust Company of that city had underwritten and guaranteed the stock of his \$100,000,000 steel building Corporation. But his tangible assets consisted principally of French.

The scheme of the corporation, as French shrewdly explained to prospective investors, was for it to act as a holding company for various subsidiary manufacturing concerns of all kinds, which existed in the present future.

French induced some of the most prominent and influential men on the Pacific Coast to act as officers for the association and to serve on a board of directors. Harrison Gray Otis, of Los Angeles, consented to be president; A. B. Purman, a leading attorney of Los Angeles, became vice-president; George W. Phaburn, cashier for the First National Bank of San Diego, was appointed on the board of directors.

French's vehicle of revenue was the Pacific Steel Company, which he organized and had capitalized at \$100,000,000. The corporation fee alone on this vast capitalization was \$10,000. It was the most heavily capitalized corporation ever organized in the United States.

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HOLY WAR IS ANNOUNCED

MULAI HAFID IS PROCLAIMED SULTAN OF MOROCCO.

Troops Swear Allegiance to Him and War With Allies Will Probably Follow.

TANGIER, Morocco, Jan. 11.—Mulai Hafid was on January 4 proclaimed Sultan of Fez and the entire country of Morocco, and holy war has been declared.

Unverified reports to this effect have been in circulation for a day or two, and today official information as to the number of tribes which will follow the rebel Sultan. Everything will depend, it is explained, upon the strength which Mulai Hafid develops.

The immediate effect of the proclamation of Mulai Hafid as Sultan is certain to be the indefinite prolongation of the stay of the French and Spanish troops in Morocco, which soon were to have been withdrawn, as it would now be impossible to confide the policing of the ports to Abdel Aziz without the safeguard of European troops.

A special dispatch from Tangier says the imperial troops at Fez have announced their allegiance to Mulai Hafid. His partisans, in order to avoid a complete rupture with the powers, are reported to have declared their acceptance of the Algeiras act with certain reservations.

PARIS, Jan. 11.—The government is confident of disturbing over the unexpected declaration of a holy war at Fez and the proclamation of Mulai Hafid as Sultan of Morocco. It is now anxious to obtain information as to the number of tribes which will follow the rebel Sultan. Everything will depend, it is explained, upon the strength which Mulai Hafid develops.

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FINAL CURTAIN IS RUNG DOWN

Notorious Variety Theaters of Spokane Closed First Time in 20 Years.

MAYOR CLAMPS ON THE LID

Saloons Lock Doors Promptly at Midnight and This Will Be First Real Puritanical Rest Day Falls City Ever Saw.

SPOKANE, Wash., Jan. 11.—(Special.)—While the chorus sang "Auld Lang Syne" and the audience, packed the theater, first joined in the singing and then burst into cheers, the last curtain was rung down at 11:30 o'clock at the Comique Variety Theater tonight, after an uninterrupted run of 20 years.

L. D. Holland, the proprietor of the theater since 1889, stood in the balcony and when the music ceased, weepingly addressed the big crowd, saying: "The last curtain has fallen at the Comique Theater. I hope the preachers will sink with it."

Just before the bar closed, women gathered about the bar saying their farewells, singing, weeping or cursing, according to the manner in which they were affected by the breaking up of the theater.

At the Oeur d'Alene Theater, the best-known variety house in the Spokane country, the closing was quiet. "Dutch Jake" Goetz, the proprietor, made a short speech, telling what he had done for Spokane. His establishment, representing

TALENTED PORTLAND READER RECEIVES FLATTERING OFFER.

Sylvia Williams McGuire, Sylvia Williams McGuire, of this city, has just received a most flattering offer from a large Eastern literary bureau for a tour through the East and Middle West. Her amusing drollery, dialect stories, poems and lullabies, which have been used in making are fast passing away has won her a high place in the entertainment field.

ROSEBURG, Or., Jan. 11.—(Special.)—John Van Tine, who was paroled last week after serving nine years of a 20-year sentence for manslaughter committed in Sacramento, and was arrested by Attorney-General Stoddard and Attorney William Woodburn, for safekeeping about \$100, or one-half, with the other half he proceeded to have a glorious time. Falling in with a trio of sports, he was soon out of commission, and this morning when he came to himself found he was out all the money he had left, together with the receipt for the sum he had cashed away. "The case was reported to the officers and the Portland police were directed to arrest, on arrival of No. 16 this morning, kid Kirby, George Gallagher and a third party unknown, who were the trio said to be steering him about town, and who all are said to have departed north on No. 16 at midnight. Kirby was a sport who was party to a snoring match with Ed Hamden Monday evening and who was easily knocked out by the local woodchucker.

Wills and Mack, a song and dance troupe, were booked at the Stevens establishment for a few days' engagement pending the arrival of transportation from Roseburg, where it seems likely they will be booked for some months to come. Wills and Mack are in the business of entertaining rural communities with a crude comedy song and dance specialty. It is said of them that they furnished further entertainment for Roseburg lately by sacking the town of \$100 in lawful money of the United States.

Deputy Sheriff Leonard and Patrolman Jolly, located the public entertainers after a half an hour of searching in the North End yesterday afternoon. They are being held in the County Jail pending arrival of an officer from Southern Oregon.

Eugene Hops Bring 6 1-4 Cents. EUGENE, Or., Jan. 11.—(Special.)—Two hundred bales of local hops have just been sold to the agents of Kala Kala, 103 bales from the Dickey Ryer yard selling for 8 1/2 cents. The price paid for the Hyland crop of 95 bales has not been given out.

Colonel Griggs III in St. Paul. TACOMA, Wash., Jan. 11.—(Special.)—Colonel C. W. Griggs, president of the Puget Sound Lumber Company, who went East the day after Christmas, is seriously ill in St. Paul with the grip and is threatened with pneumonia.

CONDUCTOR KILLS ROBBER Attempts to Hold Up Car, but is Met With Bullet. LOS ANGELES, Jan. 11.—An unknown man, who, armed with two revolvers, attempted to hold up a Redondo car near Slauson, was shot and instantly killed by J. C. Greer, conductor of the car.

When the masked man entered the car holding two revolvers at the conductor, Greer, in answer to his demand for money, said that his receipts were in a pocket in his coat. As the highwayman started to search Greer, E. O. Williams leaped from his seat and grasped the robber around the throat. At the same instant

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MERCHANTS SAVINGS & TRUST CO.

247 Washington Street. CAPITAL, \$150,000.00

Acts as Trustee in all legitimate relations requiring such service, as to real and personal estates and in bond issues.

Does a general banking business. Solicits patronage of those requiring service of a well-equipped and conservative trust company.

Has funds for first-class improved property mortgage loans.

J. Frank Watson, President. R. L. Durham, Vice-President. W. H. Fear, Secretary. S. C. Catching, Assistant Sec'y. O. W. T. Muellhaupt, Cashier.

They have still held aloof from supporting Bryan, because, as they said, they were "honestly afraid of him." A noticeable feature of the banquet given by the merchants was the presence of a large number of these men who have stood for sound money. Mr. Bryan greeted them, shook their hands heartily and welcomed them back. He urged the rank and file to forget and forgive and all join in the mighty effort for victory.

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Important Announcement

At no time in the history of our business have we presented such an opportunity to purchase reliable, high-grade merchandise of superior quality at such reduced prices.

Alfred Benjamin & Co.'s Important Neckwear Offer

WORLD-RENOWNED Suits and Overcoats

\$20.00 Suits and Overcoats... \$15.00 \$25.00 Suits and Overcoats... \$18.75 \$30.00 Suits and Overcoats... \$22.50 \$35.00 Suits and Overcoats... \$26.25 \$40.00 Suits and Overcoats... \$30.00

All this season's styles. Suits of fancy chevots, cassimeres and worsteds. Overcoats in newest shades of gray, tan, also black. Full and three-quarters lengths.

Manhattan, Cluett and Wilson Bros.' Stiff Bosom Shirts—coat and regular styles, separate and attached cuffs, neat figures and stripes; regular \$1.50 shirts... \$1.10

Buffum & Endleton

311 MORRISON STREET, OPPOSITE POSTOFFICE

SPORTS FLEECE OLD MINER LOSSES SACK OF "YELLOW" AFTER NIGHT ABOUT TOWN.

W. A. Herrin Goes In for "Good Time" With Trio of Strangers Who Do Him "Brown"

ROSEBURG, Or., Jan. 11.—(Special.)—W. A. Herrin, a miner of Glendale, came into town yesterday with a sack of yellow dust, of which he put away for safekeeping about \$100, or one-half, with the other half he proceeded to have a glorious time. Falling in with a trio of sports, he was soon out of commission, and this morning when he came to himself found he was out all the money he had left, together with the receipt for the sum he had cashed away. "The case was reported to the officers and the Portland police were directed to arrest, on arrival of No. 16 this morning, kid Kirby, George Gallagher and a third party unknown, who were the trio said to be steering him about town, and who all are said to have departed north on No. 16 at midnight. Kirby was a sport who was party to a snoring match with Ed Hamden Monday evening and who was easily knocked out by the local woodchucker.

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Eugene Hops Bring 6 1-4 Cents. EUGENE, Or., Jan. 11.—(Special.)—Two hundred bales of local hops have just been sold to the agents of Kala Kala, 103 bales from the Dickey Ryer yard selling for 8 1/2 cents. The price paid for the Hyland crop of 95 bales has not been given out.

Colonel Griggs III in St. Paul. TACOMA, Wash., Jan. 11.—(Special.)—Colonel C. W. Griggs, president of the Puget Sound Lumber Company, who went East the day after Christmas, is seriously ill in St. Paul with the grip and is threatened with pneumonia.

CONDUCTOR KILLS ROBBER Attempts to Hold Up Car, but is Met With Bullet. LOS ANGELES, Jan. 11.—An unknown man, who, armed with two revolvers, attempted to hold up a Redondo car near Slauson, was shot and instantly killed by J. C. Greer, conductor of the car.

When the masked man entered the car holding two revolvers at the conductor, Greer, in answer to his demand for money, said that his receipts were in a pocket in his coat. As the