

# AIR EVERY SCANDAL

## Senate Committee to Investigate Affairs of Canal.

### MAY ABOLISH CANAL COMMISSION

Latitude Will Be Given in Taking Testimony in Hope of Showing Mismanagement.

Washington, Jan. 13.—While the senate has labored to mask the truth, the fact is that next Tuesday Theodore Roosevelt, William H. Taft, Theodore P. Shonts, John F. Stevens and, incidentally, John F. Wallace, are to be arraigned and tried before the none too impartial judges who constitute the senate committee on interoceanic canals.

The trial is to be called an investigation, but it means simply that every supposed scandal, every petty criticism, every report of friction between officials, every story of an unearned salary, every tale of a discharged employe and every fleeting bit of gossip is to be told in public, and from them all the members of the committee expect to get—possibly some of them hope to get—the basis for a direct charge of incompetence, or it may be of guilt. There is not a soul in Washington who believes that anything will come of the investigation save the knowledge already held that some of the heads of the enterprise have had their bickerings and their disagreements.

It may be that in the course of the hearings the public may learn the real reason for the resignation of Mr. Wallace. It may learn whether or not there was any truth in the reports of friction between Mr. Taft and Mr. Shonts. It may learn whether or not Poulton Bigelow drew the long bow, but that anything substantial can come from the investigation no one in his heart believes.

It is understood that the greatest latitude will be given in the matter of asking questions, and, if curiosity about personal differences between officials is to be considered one of the chief things which it is necessary satisfy, the senate and the people may have their fill of satisfaction.

The senate declares that President Roosevelt practically challenged the investigation and that it has been decided not to deny him. There was nothing for the president to do, apparently, in the present condition of affairs, except to "challenge" an investigation. There is a feeling in Washington that he took the course that he did to win eventually the right to conduct the canal construction unhampered by a commission of seven men.

If the result of the investigation leads to the statutory abolition of the canal body, it may be that trouble and rumors of trouble will disappear and that the work will go forward, showing that a strong hand is behind it.

### SEETHING WITH EXCITEMENT.

Young China Wants Reform Old China Adheres to Graft.

Pekin, Jan. 13.—Reports from the South and from the Yangtze valley region show the anti-foreign sentiment to be very strong. China undoubtedly is in a ferment of political excitement, but the movement is directed as much against the government as against the foreigners.

The government is between two fires. The young China party is clamoring because reforms are being executed too slowly, while the conservatives and the officials, the latter having their perquisites threatened, are resisting all efforts at reform.

In spite of the protests in Northern China, the foreign ministers have not changed their minds for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Chile province, the only exception being the legation guards, the ministers believing that the Chinese government is both able and determined to protect foreigners in the event of a revolution.

### Demand a Lower Rate.

Juneau, Alaska, Jan. 13.—At a meeting attended by 35 Douglas City shippers last night a telegram was ordered to be sent that no contract would be signed with the two steamship companies now doing business unless a rate of 25 per cent less than the present rate be granted. At present only three contracts have been signed in Juneau with the two companies. All other shippers were waiting for some move by Tacoma or Portland. There is some agitation to get Tacoma to pool the issue with Portland.

### Castro Will Sell Asphalt Lake.

New York, Jan. 13.—According to private advices received from Caracas, President Castro will offer for sale to the highest bidder the concession for the asphalt lake Guanaco, of which the New York & Bermudez company was deprived about a year and a half ago. The asphalt property, which is in the state of Bermudez, is now being operated by Ambrose Howard Carner, as a receiver under appointment by the High Federal court.

### More Jamaicans for Canal.

Kingston, Jan. 13.—Four hundred men sailed from Kingston this afternoon on the steamer Tagus for Colon to seek employment in the canal zone. Each man deposited \$6.25 with the treasury under the immigrants protection law.

### RANGE WAR IN WYOMING.

Raiders Murder Herders, Slaughter Sheep and Burn Camp.

Denver, Jan. 12.—An Evanston, Wyo., special to the Tribune says: Masked and mounted raiders, presumed to be cattlemen, last night attacked the camps of two Utah flockmasters near Burnt Fork, close to the Utah-Wyoming line, shot down A. N. Garsite and Robert Allen, herders, slaughtered the sheep, and burned the camp wagons and outfits.

A camp mover who escaped the bullets of the raiders witnessed the battle from the brush. The raiders numbered about 20, and approached the camps at a gallop, firing a fusillade of shots into the wagons. The herders were killed at the first fire. It required less than half an hour to club the sheep to death and burn the outfits, when the raiders departed. Notices of warning to other flockmasters were left with the bodies of the dead herders.

Sheepmen are indignant, threaten to get even, and more trouble is anticipated. The range on which the outrage was committed has long been in dispute, and the sheepmen have been frequently ordered away.

### BLAMES ALL ON MOROCCO.

German Delegate Says Minister Misunderstood French Minister.

Paris, Jan. 12.—With the approach of the Algeiras convention on Moroccan reforms, the newspapers devote greater space to discussion of the question. Public opinion everywhere is that the issue of the conference will be amicable has been practically decided. The Journal's Madrid correspondent sends an interview with the German ambassador at Madrid, Herr von Radowitz, who is also the principal German delegate to the convention. The ambassador, the correspondent says, has no doubt of the favorable issue of the conference. He believes the whole disagreement is due to the Moroccan minister's not understanding or misinterpreting the words of the French minister to Morocco, willfully or otherwise, and says if the sultan's delegates try to prevent an agreement being reached by the powers, as it has been suggested they would do, they will find themselves in a most serious situation. But the ambassador is of the opinion that the Moroccan delegates fully appreciate this and will give no trouble.

### FORBIDS PRIVATE CARS.

Bill Offered Congress by Fruit Jobbers' Association.

Duluth, Minn., Jan. 12.—President Roosevelt, Attorney General Moody and members of congress and the Interstate Commerce commission, will receive this week copies of a bill advocated by the Western Fruit Jobbers' association, of which E. M. Ferguson, of Duluth, is president, and which has for its primary purpose the elimination of private freight cars, the correction of refrigerating rates and bringing express companies under the interstate commerce act and prohibiting the dealing in commodities handled by them.

The bill will be introduced in congress during the present session. It provides that roads must furnish all rolling stock required to handle interstate commerce under penalty of heavy fines. It outlaws "flexible" charges and gives the shipper an open avenue for relief against unreasonable rates.

### TRAINWRECKERS WIPED OUT.

Deadly Vengeance on Rebels Who Tore Up Track.

Riga, Livonia, Jan. 12.—News has just reached this city of a daring attempt of the revolutionists to capture a military train conveying a large sum of money from St. Petersburg to Libau. A band of revolutionists having advanced information gathered at Hazenpot, burned two bridges and tore up the track. Two companies of infantry, which were escorting the train, left the care, and were joined by a detachment of dragoons. This force marched against the revolutionists, who from behind improvised defenses, opened fire on the soldiers. The infantry, after firing two volleys, which killed 65 and wounded nearly 100 of the revolutionists, charged with the bayonet, and the dragoons completed the rout by sabering all the revolutionists they overtook.

### Pipe Line Across Isthmus.

Washington, Jan. 12.—Secretary Taft has recommended to the president that he sanction the issue of a revocable license to the Union Oil company, of California, to construct and maintain a pipe line across the canal zone. There were six applicants for such a right, but the company named is the only one which specified the price of oil if used by the government and whose offer was otherwise sufficiently definite and reasonable. It is, however, expressly provided that the license shall not be exclusive.

### Asks for Second Federal Judge.

Butte, Mont., Jan. 12.—A Miner special from Helena states that the Montana Bar association this afternoon adopted a resolution indorsing United States Senator Thomas H. Carter's bill providing an additional Federal judge for Montana. The association, however, takes the ground that the bill should not provide for the division of the state into two Federal court districts, and recommends that change in the proposed measure.

### Grinding Cane in Mexico.

Mexico City, Jan. 12.—Cane grinding is now well under way on the sugar plantations. The total production is estimated at 225,000 tons.

# OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

### CONTAINS MANY DIFFICULTIES.

Oregon State Primary Law Hard for Candidates to Follow.

Salem—Another very serious problem has arisen in connection with the direct primary law. The law requires that candidates for state offices shall file petitions from not less than seven counties, and that at least 10 per cent of the precincts shall be represented in each of the seven counties. Two per cent of the votes cast at the last state election for supreme judge by each party must be represented on the petition.

It has been the supposition until recently that so long as the required number of counties and precincts were represented by the signatures of one or more voters that the bulk of the signatures on a petition to make up the 2 per cent might come from one county, so long as the required number of names was filed with the secretary of state. It is now discovered that there must be 2 per cent of the vote cast by the party represented in each county and precinct represented, as well as throughout the state.

The attorney general will probably be asked to render an opinion in regard to the number of signatures required from the counties and precincts. To secure 2 per cent of the voters in seven counties, and 10 per cent of the precincts in each of the seven counties, and in addition have 2 per cent of the party vote in the entire state, will add to the difficulties of securing a petition.

### FORM NEW ORGANIZATION.

Independent Telephone Companies of Oregon Unite.

Portland—In order to fortify themselves and protect their interests, representatives of the independent telephone lines in Oregon met here last week and formed a permanent organization. It will be known as the Oregon Independent Telephone association, and is formed after similar organizations in other states of the Union and affiliated with the national association of independent telephone lines.

The objects of the association are to encourage development; foster and stimulate the growth; protect the mutual interests; promote and systematize uniformity of accounting, operation, maintenance and construction of independent (non-Bell) telephone interests, and to defend the same from unfair encroachments of competition by co-operation and by such other available means as may, from time to time, seem advisable.

### Favor Woolen Mills.

Albany—The business men of the city met and discussed the proposition of securing the new woolen mill for this city. Judge Stewart, of the stock committee, withdrew from the active work of soliciting subscriptions, and Frank J. Miller was selected to fill the vacancy and the committee will push the work. The purpose of the committee is to secure subscriptions to the stock aggregating \$15,000 toward the capital of \$100,000, when the mill will be built and fitted up. The business men at the meeting were enthusiastic in support of the project, and the spirit manifested was in favor of co-operation among the business interests of the city for the upbuilding of Albany and its industries.

### Plans an Electric Line.

Forest Grove—At the meeting of the Forest Grove city council last week, State Senator E. W. Haines, in behalf of the Forest Grove transportation company, a new organization, applied for a 25-year franchise for an electric railway in Forest Grove, to run from the Southern Pacific depot to the business section of the city, about two miles. According to the terms of the ordinance, the new line must be begun in 90 days, and completed in eight months. It is to carry the United States mail, express and passengers. Senator Haines furnishes electric light to Forest Grove from his plant about 12 miles distant, and, it is understood, will furnish power for the new road from his plant.

### Buys Ranch in Gilliam.

Condon—A. S. Hollen has purchased the 860-acre ranch on Trail fork, Gilliam county, belonging to J. W. Booth. The transaction, which involves about \$15,000, is one of the most important real estate transfers for some time here, and gives Mr. Hollen a most valuable farm and stock ranch. In the deal Mr. Booth takes residence property in Condon valued at about \$5,000, consisting of several fine dwellings. Mr. Hollen is proprietor of the Condon Flouring mill. He will take possession of the ranch about March 1.

### Newport as Winter Resort.

Albany—Many Albany people are spending a portion of the winter at Newport on Yaquina bay, where the weather as a general thing has been delightful. Only a few days during the holiday season was the sea rough. Some of the leading people of the valley cities—Salem, Eugene, Albany, Independence and Corvallis—have spent a portion of the winter at the seaside, and Newport is gaining a reputation as a winter resort.

### Few Hops Left in Josephine.

Grants Pass—Several sales of hops have been made here recently at from 9 to 10 cents. About 500 bales have changed hands, and by February 1 but few hops will be held by the growers in Josephine county. There are quite a few baby hops still held and a few old ones, though not to exceed 500 bales in all.

### AMEND IRRIGATION LAWS.

Irrigators Say Conditions in Idaho Are Better Than in Oregon.

Salem—Prominent irrigators of Oregon are considering the advisability of asking the next legislature to amend the irrigation laws in several particulars.

At the present time all the contracts with the state for the reclamation of desert lands under the Carey act are based upon the theory that the owners of the canals and ditches are entitled to collect a perpetual annual rental from the landholders. In Idaho the landholders will eventually own and control the canals, ditches, headgates, etc.

In the contract with the state of Idaho for the construction of the Twin Falls canal it is provided that a company shall be formed among the landowners on the basis of one share of stock for one share of water right, and that within seven years the control of the canals, ditches, dams and headgates shall pass to the corporation formed among the water users. Previous to the formation of this company and before the expiration of the seven years' limit, the construction company is entitled to collect annually not exceeding 80 cents an acre. The same theory of ownership prevails in all government work.

All the contracts for the reclamation of arid lands under the Carey act in this state allow the construction companies the right to collect \$1 an acre perpetually, the company agreeing to keep the canals and ditches in repair.

### Fruit Inspector in Linn.

Albany—The Linn county court has appointed E. C. Armstrong, residing at Marion station, Marion county, to act as fruit inspector for Linn county, temporarily, on the recommendation of Horticultural Commissioner C. A. Park, of Salem. Mr. Park wished to secure here a man who would be ready to begin war on pests at once. The court will at once select a man for permanent appointment who will be asked to take a short course in training under Professor A. B. Cordley, at the Oregon Agricultural college.

### Allen Wants Oregon Boys.

Corvallis—Lieutenant Quinlan, commandant of the cadet regiment at the college, has received instructions to recommend six additional graduates from the Oregon Agricultural college for positions as Third lieutenants in the Philippine constabulary. Three similar recommendations were recently made, and from these one appointment has already been made, that of Lieutenant Floyd Williams, who has gone to Manila.

### New Railroad for Gilliam.

Salem—Articles of incorporation have been filed with the secretary of state for the Oregon Northern Railway company. The incorporators are: William J. Mariner, R. W. Robinson and C. E. Jones. The road runs from Blalock, in Gilliam county, to Hardman, in Morrow county. The capital stock is \$25,000, divided into 1,250 shares of \$20 each. The principal place of business is Heppner.

### Contracts at Interest.

Salem—The State Land board reports interest bearing contracts outstanding December 31, as follows: School land contracts, \$69,516.30; Agricultural college, \$28,993.82; University, \$3,788.

### PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 71@71c; bluestem, 73@74c; red, 68@69c; valley, 73c.  
Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$27; gray, \$26.50 per ton.  
Barley—Feed, \$23.00@23.50 per ton; brewing, \$24.00@24.50; rolled, \$23.50@24.50.  
Buckwheat—\$2.50 per cental.  
Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, \$13.50@14.50 per ton; valley timothy, \$9@10; clover, \$9@10; cheat, \$8.50@9.50; grain hay, \$8@9.  
Fruits—Apples—75c@81.50 per box, persimmons, \$1.25 per box; pears, \$1.25@1.50 per box; cranberries, \$13@13.50 per barrel.  
Vegetables—Beans, 20c per pound; cabbage, 1@2c per pound; cauliflower, \$1.25 per dozen; celery, \$3@3.50 per crate; pumpkins, 3/4@1c per pound; s-routs, 7/8c per pound; squash, 1 1/2@1 3/4c per pound; turnips, 90c@1 per sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@1 per sack.  
Onions—Oregon, No. 1, \$1@1.25 per sack; No. 2, 75@90c.  
Potatoes—Fancy graded Burbanks, 65@75c per sack; ordinary, 50@60c; Meixed sweets, 2c per pound.  
Butter—Fancy creamery, 27 1/2@32 1/2c per pound.  
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 29@30c per dozen.  
Poultry—Average old hens, 12 1/2@14c per pound; springs, 12 1/2@13c; mixed chickens, 12@12 1/2c; broilers, 15@16c; dressed chickens, 14@15c; turkeys, live, 15c; turkeys dressed, choice, 17@18c; geese, live, 9@11c; ducks, 15@16c.  
Hops—Oregon, 1905, choice, 10@11c per pound; prime, 8 1/2@9 1/2c; medium, 7@8c; olds, 5@7c.  
Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 16@21c per pound; valley, 24@26c; mohair, choice, 30c.  
Beef—Dressed bulls, 1@2c per pound; cows, 3@4c; country steers, 4@4 1/2c.  
Veal—Dressed, 8@8 1/2c per pound.  
Mutton—Dressed, fancy 6@6 1/2c per pound; ordinary, 4@5c; lamb, 7@7 1/2c.  
Pork—Dressed, 6@7 1/2c per pound.

### CONVENTION ON RATE ISSUE.

Kansas Commercial Bodies to Form State Association.

Wichita, Kan., Jan. 10.—Many delegates have already arrived in the city to attend the State Freight Rate convention, which meets here tomorrow. The convention will be held for the purpose of forming a state organization to influence freight rate legislation, both in the state legislature and in congress. It is expected that fully 1,000 delegates will attend, representing commercial and farmers' organizations from all parts of the state.

The principal speakers will be ex-Governor Van Sant, of Minnesota, and Speaker I. L. Lenroot, of Wisconsin. Governor Hoch and other prominent men of Kansas are also on the program. A preliminary meeting attended by the executive committee and such delegates as have arrived was held this evening. It is probable that J. L. Bristow, ex-fourth assistant postmaster general, will be elected permanent chairman. The meeting this afternoon resulted in a decision to present his name.

Besides the accredited delegates there are a large number of prominent business men from various parts of the state present. A banquet will be tendered the visiting delegates and guests of the convention tomorrow night by the members of the local commercial organizations.

### SIBERIA IN REVOLT.

Mutinous Soldiers of the Czar Control the Whole Railroad.

Nagasaki, Jan. 10.—News that has failed to leak through St. Petersburg because of the cutting of communication came here today on the arrival of the transport Mongolia from Vladivostok carrying Russian refugees. The Russians told a story of horror along the Siberia railway, as it had come to them from stories told of stations blocked by mutineers, who looted and burned everything in sight.

Many of those who started for Russia have turned back. Trains have been seized and turned on a backward course and great gaps exist in the line to the European Russian frontier. According to the refugees there has been a general uprising in Siberian Russia, which will stop operation of the railway for the winter at least, considering the difficulties of maintaining the line in winter weather.

The stories of privation and horror told by the refugees confirm in the worst degree the small bits of news that have leaked out from St. Petersburg of the cutting of the railway and the rebellion in the Manchurian army.

### MORE REFORMS PROPOSED.

Pennypacker Amends Call for Special Session in Pennsylvania.

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 10.—Governor Pennypacker today issued a supplementary proclamation to his call for the extra session of the Pennsylvania legislature which convenes next Monday, so as to include a uniform primary election system, a civil service system for state officers and the regulation of election expenses. He also amends his original call so as to enable the legislature to pass a bill for the consolidation of the cities of Pittsburgh and Allegheny, eminent lawyers having contended that it was impossible to pass such a bill under his original proclamation.

The governor's supplementary call was a great surprise to his official advisers, not one of whom thought he would make any change in his original call, despite the pressure for a uniform primary election system and a new ballot law. Among the subjects mentioned in the original call are personal registration, state treasury reform and senatorial and legislative reapportionment.

### Collect for Stolen Timber.

Washington, Jan. 10.—The Supreme court of the United States today heard argument in the case of the United States against the Bitter Root company, of Montana, and at its conclusion took up the case against Senator William A. Clark. In the Bitter Root case, the prosecution is based on the allegation that the company, as the assignee of Marcus Daly, received the proceeds of a large quantity of timber cut on public land in Montana, while Clark is charged with possession of about 11,000 acres of timber land fraudulently.

### Wants Iowa to Investigate.

Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 10.—F. M. Moleberry sounded the first note of battle against the life insurance companies in the Iowa legislature today by introducing a resolution providing for the appointment of a joint committee of the house and senate to conduct a sweeping investigation of the life insurance business; revise the statutes and frame new bills and report to the next general assembly, which meets next winter.

### Bomb Factory Blown Up.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 10.—Reports have been received here of a battle at Tiflis between the rebels, who hold the whole of Western Transcaucasia, and the troops sent against them. The rebels took refuge in a bomb factory, which was exploded by the troops and great loss of life inflicted.

### German Soldiers Called Home.

Copenhagen, Jan. 10.—All German subjects in Denmark who are liable for military service have received official warning to be ready to return to Germany upon three days' notice.

# NEW TIMBER

## Senate Committee Favors Change in Present Law.

### SELL TIMBER INSTEAD OF LEASE

Senator Fulton Opposes Giving Secretary of Interior Power to Provide for Appraisal.

Washington, Jan. 11.—The senate public lands committee today passed for consideration the bill repealing timber and stone act, but no conclusion was reached. The committee intends to give this legislation very careful consideration, and it now seems probable that some bill will ultimately be reported repealing the present law substituting a new law authorizing sale of timber on public land at less than its appraised value, in a manner to be prescribed by the secretary of the interior.

When this feature was touched by several Western senators, particularly Fulton and Patterson, took occasion to state their opinion that too much was now left to the discretion of the secretary of the interior, particular reference being made to his power with regard to land from entry for forestry purposes. It was alleged that this power many times abused, that vast areas have been withdrawn when there was justification for it, and in consequence of such withdrawals development has been retarded.

This discussion had no bearing on the subject under consideration, and this particular question is taken up will probably be in the committee on agriculture and forestry rather than in the committee on public lands.

### FIRE CAUSES PANIC.

Hotel Guests Suffocate or Leap Sure Death at Minneapolis.

Minneapolis, Jan. 11.—Eight persons are dead from suffocation or leaping from windows and a score of people are more or less injured as result of a fire in the West hotel this morning.

The fire, which is supposed to have been caused by crossed electric wires in itself insignificant, being confined to the elevator shaft and the floor in the corner of the building, the wild scene which followed the alarm hurried people into the hall and out upon windows in a frantic attempt to save themselves. The financial loss will not exceed \$30,000.

All of the hospitals sent their ambulances to the fire. Physicians hastened to the hotel and offered their services and undoubtedly many lives were saved by their efforts. The hospitals were crowded with patients and several hours after the fire had been checked.

### CHINA OPENS NEW TOWN.

Great Ceremony Welcomes Foreign Traders to Tsinan Fu.

Tsinan Fu, Jan. 11.—The ceremony of opening Tsinan Fu, capital of the province of Shan Tung, to foreign trade today were attended by many Chinese and foreign officials. The international guests present included consular officials and representatives of prominent mercantile companies. One hundred and fifty guests attended luncheon at noon, and the governor, Shantung will give a banquet to the guests tonight at his palatial home which is built and furnished in the European style.

The governor's speech today emphasized the fact that the first international commercial settlement opened in China herself was initiated and awaited by viceroys Yuan Shi Kai and Chou Fu. The area of the settlement is about four miles.

### Unite for Irrigation.

Omaha, Jan. 11.—The American Irrigation Federation is the name for organization formed by representatives of the irrigation states who met in Omaha today. Among the objects of the federation is to set forth in an official statement a course to harmonize conflicting interests, promote beneficial legislation, distribute instructive literature, aid in settlement of reclaimed areas, criticize officials or others for acts of injustice and to aid in the adjustment of freight rates to and from the reclaimed areas.

### Rebel Houses Bombarded.

Tiflis, Jan. 11.—The plundering this city continues. Last night bombs were thrown at a military post whereupon the house from which the bombs were hurled, and the adjacent buildings, were bombarded by artillery, with the result that many people were killed or wounded. A house which an Armenian who had attempted to assassinate an officer had sought refuge was set on fire and the man was burned alive.

### Plot to Capture Fortress.

London, Jan. 11.—A dispatch from St. Petersburg to a new London paper, the "Globe," reports the arrest of military officers of the St. Petersburg garrison on the charge of being engaged in a conspiracy to blow up the Tzar's bridge and to capture the fortress.