SMASH UP BUREAUS

President Calls for Reorganization of System.

CHIEFS DON'T PULL TOGETHER

Newberry's Plan Summarily Pushed Aside—President Would Run Navy Yards as Factories.

Washington, Jan. 28.—President Roosevelt believes the organization of the Navy department is not such as to bring the best results, and he appointed a committee today to "consider certain needs of the navy." His action was somewhat of a surprise, in view of the fact that the members of the commission appointed today met at Washington two weeks ago and indorsed Secretary Newberry's plan of reorganization, and in view also of the authorization by the senate of an inquiry into naval expenditures and the need, if any, of legislation to improve the administration of the Navy department.

Announcement of the president's action was entirely unexpected at the Navy department. Mr. Newberry appeared to be the most surprised of all.

The president has sent identical letters to each of the eight members of the commission, which is headed by Paul Morton, ex-secretary of the navy, the other members being Justice Moody, also an ex-secretary of the navy; Judge A. G. Dayton, ex-chairman of the house naval affairs committee, and Rear-Admirals S. B. Luce, A. T. Mahan, William H. Folger, Robley D. Evans and W. S. Cowles, all of whom are on the retired list. The letter follows:

"My Dear Sir—I have appointed you as a member of a commission to consider certain needs of the navy. The organization of the department is now not such as to bring the best results and there is failure to co-ordinate the work of bureaus and to make the department serve the one end for which it was created, that is, the development and handling of first-class fighting fleets. With this proposition I will ask you to consider:

"First—All defects in the law under which the Navy department is now organized, including especially the defects by which the authority of chiefs of the bureaus is made in certain respects practically equal to that of the secretary or the president.

"Second—The division of responsibility and consequent lack of co-ordination in the preparation of war and for conduct of war.

"Third—The functions of certain bureaus, as to whether it is not possible to consolidate them.

"Fourth—The necessity of providing the secretary of the navy with military advisers who are responsible to him for co-ordinating the work of the bureaus and for preparation for war.

"Fifth—The necessity for economical allotment and disbursement of appropriations and for a system which will insure strict accountability.

"Sixth—Finally, I want your views as to how best to recognize and emphasize the strictly military character of the navy, so that preparation for war shall be controlled under the secretary by the military branch of the navy, which bears the responsibility for the successful conduct of war preparations.

"I wish to have the above subjects considered under two general heads:

"1. As to the fundamental principles of an organization that will insure an efficient preparation for war in time of peace.

"2. Specific recommendations as to the changes in the present organization that will accomplish these results.

"In addition to the above reports, I desire your recommendation as to the number., location and general facilities of the navy-yards which are required by strategic considerations in time of war, and for maintaining the fleet in constant readiness for war in time of peace."

Earl's Son Is a Prisoner.

Mexico, Mo., Jan. 28.—Lyle Leland, a prisoner charged with forgery, says he is the blacksheep son of the Earl of Aberdeen and a former employe of the San Francisco Examiner and the San Francisco Bulletin, and at the time of the Spanish-American war was correspondent in Cuba for the New York Journal. Leland has won the gratitude of Sheriff Woolery by "tipping off" a plan of two murderers this morning to murder the sheriff and his deputy and Mrs. Woolery and escape.

Revolutionists Give Up.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 28.—Reports have been received here of the doings of the congress of the social democratic party recently held abroad to avoid interference from the police. The most important decision was to abandon for the present the propaganda among the troops. There seems to be no hope of reviving the revolutionary movement for several yeasr, and the party will now devote its attentions entirely to Russian workmen.

No Business Excuse Goes.

Nashville, Tenn., Jan 28.—When the court opened today for resumption of the trial of Colonel Cooper, his son Robin and ex-Sheriff Sharpe, charged with the murder of ex-United States Senator Carmack, Judge Hart began to listen to the excuses of men summoned on the second venire. "The first man who presents a business excuse will be fined $10 right off the reel," remarked the court.

INSISTS JAPS ARE LEAVING.

Secretary Straus Gives Statistics on Immigration and Emigration.

Washington, Jan. 29.—Secretary Straus forwarded a letter to Senator Frank P. Flint, of California, discussing the statistics of the department of commerce and labor covering the immigration of Japanese to the United States and the emigration of Japanese from the United States. Mr. Straus says:

"You will observe that the entire number (Japanese) admitted was 12,413 for the calendar year 1907, while the entire number admitted was but 4477 for the calendar year 1908. You will also bear in mind that the executive order of the president was issued on March 14, 1907, but it took a considerable time to prepare regulations and put them into effect and for the department of state, both here and through our ambassador to Japan, to arrive at a definite understanding with the Japanese government.

"I desire furthermore to direct your attention to the fact that the entire immigration for the year beginning with November 1, 1907, and ending with October 31, 1908, was 6017, while the departures for the same period were 5832, leaving an increase of immigration of Japanese for that year of 185.

"It is further to be observed that, beginning with the month of June, 1908, to October, 1908, the emigration of Japanese from the United States exceeded the immigration to the United States by 1542, showing distinctly that the trend of the migration of Japanese is from the United States. It is further shown by the marked decrease of immigration during the months referred to of 1908 as compared with the same months of 1907.

"The press reports which I have seen contain statements made by some of your people in California that these figures are inexact. I desire emphatically to state that they are absolutely correct, and the proof thereof, which is on file in the department, clearly demonstrates the accuracy of the figures.

"It has further been intimated, as I see from reports, that there is a large surreptitious influx of Japanese over the Mexican and Canadian borders. I am justified in saying that this is not true, for obvious reasons. That there are some few scattered surreptitious entries is quite probable, but the sum is so small that it cannot be consequential.

"Finally I wish to call your attention to the fact, which the statements above are forced to indicate, that the arrangements which have been called the 'gentlemen's agreement' we have with Japan, in my judgment, are working more effectively than would result from any restrictive laws, because of the effective embargo Japan has placed on the departure of her subjects from Japan."

MEAT AT FAMINE PRICES.

Short Hay Crops and Floods Make California Suffer.

Stockton, Cal., Jan. 28.—The scarcity of beef, hogs and sheep has caused meat prices here to increase fast of late, and the retailers have raised their prices until the head of the house is compelled to pay fancy figures for all kinds of meat.

Of late years, at certain seasons, the greater portion of California depends on Nevada and Arizona, and even Oregon, to supply the bulk of meat. Owing to the failure of the hay crop in Nevada and Arizona last season, the stock in these two states are not in condition for slaughter. The prevailing wet weather, with washouts and few carloads of stock, has created almost a meat famine and prices are soaring.

Japan Not Worried.

Tokio, Jan. 29.—In an editorial which the Hochi will print tomorrow the Japanese people are warned against connecting the movement for naval expansion and increased fortifications in America with the anti-Japanese agitation in California. It will say that the American government is only showing a wise care for its dependencies, Hawaii and the Philippines, and that only harmful sensationalists could connect such proper naval expansion with any feeling against Japan.

Chile and Peru Quarrel.

Valparaiso, Chile, Jan. 29.—The rupture of diplomatic relations between Chile and Peru, signalized by the withdrawal of Senor J. M. Echinque, the Chilean minister at Lima, has aroused more or less excitement here, and the old animosities between the two countries, dating back to the war of 1879 and the consequent acquisition of the Peruvian provinces of Tacna and Arica by Chile, have, to a certain measure, been revived.

Mystery in Navy Suicide.

San Diego, Cal., Jan. 29.—J. S. Mollen, a warrant machinist on board the cruiser Albany, at anchor in the harbor here, committed suicide last night by shooting. The captain of the Albany has revoked all shore leave, denied admittance to civilians aboard ship and refuses to give out any information concerning the affair. Coroner Morgan has not gone aboard the ship and reasons for such secrecy are unknown.

Remove Wreck of Maine.

Washington, Jan. 29.—President Roosevelt today sent to congress a message approving the recommendation of Governor Magoon that an appropriation be made to remove the wreck of the battleship Maine from Havana harbor.

PROCEEDINGS OF OREGON LEGISLATURE

Friday, January 29.

Salem, Jan. 29.—This promises to be the most extravagant legislature Oregon ever had at Salem, not only on account of appropriations, but also on account of new offices to be created and higher salaries enacted. There are bills for creation of no less than 200 new jobs, most of them at fat pay—political berths, for few of which the state and its subdivision shave any need.

War between Governor Chamberlain and salary logrollers in the legislature was declared today from the governor's office in a special warning message. The house replied by passing Multnomah's bill ofr an extra circuit judge and overriding his last session vetoes on four agricultural fair senate bills appropriating money for Eastern Oregon districts.

Five of the six senate bills of the 1907 session, vetoed by the governor and which were passed over his veto in the senate at this session, were passed by the house this morning, when they came up as a special order. Four of the bills provide for district agricultural societies in Eastern Oregon and carry appropriations of from $1500 to $2500 per annum each. The fifth measure permits the garnishment of the salaries and wages of state and county officials.

The most sweeping anti-trust bill that has been introduced in the legislature appeared in the senate today. It was introduced by Senator Bingham and is senate bill 161. It not only prohibits every form and shade of trust and combination agreement, but requires corporations to make an annual statement under oath that they have not made any agreements in restraint of trade or for the maintenance of prices or rates. It prescribes as penalties not only fines and imprisonments, but forfeiture of corporate existence and liability to repay all moneys received in violation of the anti-trust law.

Thursday, January 28.

Salem, Jan. 28.—Senator Bailey's motion for an amendment to the constitution permitting the legislature to amend a city charter with the consent of a majority of the voters of a city is looked upon by the anti-saloon people as an effort to circumvent the local option law.

Should the amendment be adopted any city that has become "dry" because it is in a "dry" county, could by vote of its people be made "wet" by an act of the legislature. This would practically set aside the local option, so far as cities are concerned.

The emergency tax law passed both houses today and provides that within five days the state board shall equalize the county assessments and levy a state tax at a uniform rate.

The bill carries an appropriation of $5000 to meet the contingent expenses of the board, which may find it necessary in the process of its task to summon several of the county assessors to their assistance.

Certain Portland banks have renewed their old fight to restrict to themselves the use of the word "Trust," in the titles of firms and corporations. A bill introduced by Senator Bailey, and now gone to the house, forbids any of the numerous abstract and mortgage and agency companies the use of "Trust" in their business. Instead they must use "Trustee."

A big fight is waging over an attachment bill which bankers are boosting in order to save themselves from attachment in case of money stringency. The opposite contention is that the bill would so seriously impair attachment of personal property as practically to make it impossible.

The senate judiciary committee received a severe scoring from Senator Abraham, of Douglas county, this morning when the committee reported adversely on Abraham's bill making it manslaughter to kill a human being by mistake for a deer.

After a prolonged argument yesterday the senate passed Hart's bill increasing the number of supreme judges from three to five, the act to go into effect upon approval by the governor, and the two additional judges to be appointed at once.

Wednesday, January 27.

Salem, Jan. 27.—The house committee on counties gave the Nesmith county bill a hearing this evening, and over 100 residents of the proposed new county were present to show their interest in the measure.

Opposition to Representative Bean's bill creating the office of state insurance commissioner and repealing the $50,000 deposit law is led in the house by Representative Jaeger. This measure is known as the Clemens bill, and is intended to remove all obstructions so far as security is concerned that might prevent reliable insurance companies from engaging in business.

Originally the bill proposed the repeal of the required deposit of $50,000, but it has been amended to reduce the deposit to $25,000. At the same time it will be required that before any foreign insurance company can enter the state and do business it must file with the insurance commissioner a certificate from the insurance department of the state of New York certifying as to its financial soundness.

Passage of emergency tax bill was deferred in the house this morning by the objection of Campbell, who insisted that the bill should be printed before being rushed through. It was planned by the tax committees to put the bill through both houses today under suspension of the rules, but in the house the two-thirds majority could not be mustered. Passage is expected tomorrow without further delay. The bill carries an emergency clause and will go into effect at once.

Salem, Jan. 27.—The Marion county delegation suffered a big scare this afternoon when Senator Bailey's bill to remove the state fair to Portland came on for third reading. The bill was reached just before the noon recess but was not read. Senator Bailey had passed the word around that he had enough votes to carry the bill, and for a few moments the Marion senators were uneasy. During the noon adjournment a large number of Marion county people visited the senate chamber, but after a short canvass they found there was no danger of the bill passing, so they got over their scare.

Tuesday, January 26.

Salem, Jan. 26.—Speaker McArthur today introduced in the house a bill which provides that failure on the part of members of any state board or commission to attend two consecutive meetings of such board or commission, except on account of the serious illness of himself or his family, shall have forfeited his office. It is provided in the bill that in event of such delinquency the governor shall appoint other members.

Representative Couch's bill, extending from six months to six years the time in which suits may be filed against the earnings of judgment debtors, was favorably reported in the house.

The house today adopted a resolution providing that in the future when members of that body introduce a bill "by request," they shall be required to inform the house members at whose request the measure is presented This will enable the legislators to have a knowledge of the real interests behind such bills, many of which are introduced at every session.

Money sharks will be hard hit should a bill of Representative Farrell, introduced today, become a law. The bill invalidates assignments of wages for less than $200, without the written consent of the employer and the assignor.

Salem, Jan. 26.—The senate judiciary committee this morning reported favorably a substitute for S. B. 29, Parrish, regulating establishments where games of chance are conducted. This substitute provides that "If any persons being the owner, lessee, proprietor or employe of any cigar store, card room, saloon, barroom, public billiard room, public poolroom, soft drink establishment, or other public place of amusement, shall suffer or permit any minor to engage in any game of cards, billiards, pool, bagatelle, dice throwing, or other game of chance in such place, either for amusement or otherwise, such person shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than $25 nor more than $100."

If any minor shall represent and pretend to the proprietor or employe of such establishment that he is over the age of 21 years he is punishable by a fine of $10 to $100.

Flood Damage Costly.

Marshfield—It is difficult to estimate the total damage by the flood and the high water, but it will be considerable throughout the county. The loss to individuals in the flooded districts will probably reach $3000. The railroad will sustain a heavy loss by the washing of the ballast from the tracks.

The gasoline launch which sank in the Coquille river is a loss of $1500, with $500 more in the loss of baggage of passengers.

The lowlands around Coquille river are reported all under water, and the ranchers will suffer heavy losses.

Want Malheur Project Begun.

Ontario—The universal interest felt in this section concerning the building of the Malheur government irrigation project will find expression Friday and Saturday of this week in immense mass meetings to be held at Nyssa and Vale, this county. A similar meeting was held in Ontario last Saturday, and was attended by nearly 400 landowners. At this meeting, many attending were already owners of good water rights under existing private contracts.

Fixes Boundary Line.

Salem—Senator Chase has introduced a bill establishing the boundary lines of Coos and Curry counties. It fixes the line in the mountainous country between the counties, there having been much confusion over assessment of property lying on the summit of the ridge. The Chase bill makes the line follow section and quarter section lines, rendering the boundary definite.

More Paving for Salem.

Salem—The city council has practically decided to pave several blocks of Court street with bituilthic pavement. This means that next summer both of the broad avenues skirting the state capitol grounds will be paved.

Oregon Man Honored.

Corvallis—S. L. Kline has been selected to represent the state of Oregon as an aide at the inaugural ball, on the evening of March 4 next, which will be a great national reception to the president and vice-president-elect and their wives. One representative from private life has been selceted to represent each state at this function, whose duties will consist in helping to introduce the representative people from this state.

JEROME WILL INVESTIGATE.

Says Panama Canal Scandal Is Case for State.

New York, Jan. 27.—The possibility of the federal authorities having to stand aside to permit the state and county of New York to proceed against the publishers of the New York World for alleged libel in connection with the Panama purchase was made apparent today in a letter written by District Attorney Jerome to United States District Attorney Henry L. Stimson.

Provided Douglas Robinson, brother-in-law of the president, is willing to appear as a complaining witness, Mr. Jerome is ready, the letter states, to bring action at once in the state courts. It would be useless for him to do so, he explains, if his inquiry is not given precedence over that begun by the Federal grand jury.

"I have given the matter published in the New York World of October 3, 1908, careful consideration," the letter says, "and I am of the opinion that it is plainly a libel upon Charles P. Taft and Douglas Robinson, assuming, of course, that it is untrue as to the syndicate mentioned therein and their alleged connection therewith. Under the law of this state its publication is a crime and, as it was published in the county of New York, it is my duty under certain circumstances to prosecute those responsible for the publication.

"The publication has a much wider general importance than is found in most libels. It in substance charges that by corrupt and dishonorable, if not criminal means, the treasury of the United States was depleted to the extent of $36,500,000 through the connivance, to give it no harsher description, of some of the chief officers of the state and that this great sum was 'divided among government favorites in the world of politics and finance.'"

Mr. Jerome expresses his conviction that so serious a charge should not pass unchallenged and that adequate justification should be shown or those making it be properly punished.

JAPAN HAS A SCANDAL.

Young Count Married Secretly to Hungarian Woman.

London, Jan. 27.—The Tokio correspondent of the Standard relates a scandal, indirectly involving the imperial house of Japan, which is causing a great stir in the Japanese capital.

Count Todo, 21 years old, was sent to England two years ago to complete his education, and while there married a woman of Hungarian birth, Mrs. Elena Addison, 29 years old, widow of an Englishman. The count's family, upon learning this, peremptorily ordered him to return to Japan. He did so, leaving his wife in England.

When he arrived home he found his family, which shares the traditional aristocratic repugnance to mixed marriages, had in his absence started negotiations for his marriage to Princess Take, member of a collateral branch of the imperial family. The count's divorce from his English wife was immediately resolved upon.

This was comparatively easy in Japan. The count secured a divorce without consulting his wife. As soon as free he formally applied for the Princess Take's hand and the emperor sanctioned the alliance. Congratulations were pouring in upon the Todos, when an editor of a Tokio newspaper, hearing the facts, printed them.

General consternation followed. The nobles of the disciplinary council investigated and found the editor's statement true. The emperor immediately revoked his consent to the betrothal of the count and princess, the count's patent of nobility was withdrawn, and the star of his family literally put in eclipse.

Various penalties have been dealt out to others concerned in the affair, including the officials who had been "squared." All these were compelled to resign It is stated that this incident is without precedent in Japan.

Senate Cannot Pump President.

Washington, Jan. 27.—That the senate has no right to call upon President Roosevelt for information which he may have obtained from the United States Steel corporation when he countenanced that concern's absorption of the Tennessee Coal & Iron company is the opinion of the special committee on judiciary appointed to investigate the matter.

Mr. Bonaparte directed the committee's attention to the act to establish the department of commerce and labor. Under that act the commissioner of corporations is empowered to gather from corporations engaged in interstate commerce such data as will enable the president to make recommendatons to congress for regulation. This provision of law concludes as follows:

"And the information so obtained, or as much thereof as the president may direct, shall be made public."

Kieran Again Arrested.

New York, Jan. 27.—Patrick J. Kieran, vice-president of the Fidelity Funding company, was arrested at his home here late today on the ground that he was a fugitive from justice and that he was wanted in Pittsburg, where charges of grand larceny had been lodged against him. Kieran had been locked up only a few hours when word came from Pittsburg that Kieran had given bonds there and requesting that he be released.

$600,000 to Ruin Rivals.

Chicago, Jan. 27.—The first actual accounting of $600,000 paid by A. Booth & Co., the fish concern recently placed in the hands of a receiver, to the law firm of Thornton & Chancellor, was given today before Master in Chancery Booth. More than half of the amount, it was stated, was used in destroying competition.

BLIZZARD ON PRAIRIE

Terrific Winter Storm Sweeping Over Middle West.

DRIFTING SNOW BLOCKS TRAINS

All Telegraph Wires Quickly Coated With Ice and Broken—Rotary Plows Are Powerless.

Denver, Jan. 30.—From 11 o'clock last night until 1 o'clock today almost the entire country west of the Missouri river was cut off from telegraphic communication with the outside world as the result of a rain, snow and sleet storm, accompanied by a wind of almost cyclonic violence that swept over Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska last night, and then continued its work of destruction eastward.

In Colorado, where the storm has been raging for several days in the mountains and along the west slope, railroads are blocked by drifts which have rendered even the big rotary plows powerless, and big snowslides are reported from all directions. High winds are piling up the drifts in the mountains and adding to the difficulties of the railroads.

In the Telluride and San Juan districts of Southwestern Colorado many mines have been forced to close because of the lack of fuel and supplies. A slide that wrecked a section of the Telluride Power company's lines put a dozen mines and mills in the Savage basin out of commission.

The Denver & Rio Grande and Moffat roads are having much trouble with drifts. Bitterly cold weather is reported from some points, Telluride reporting 16 below.

Passenger trains from the East on the Union Pacific, Santa Fe, Rock Island and Burlington roads are all late, and passengers report that the wind blew at the rate of 70 miles an hour across the Kansas and Nebraska prairies over which they came.

The storm started throughout Eastern Kansas and Eastern Nebraska last night with a thick fog. Later this turned to rain and then, as the cold wave and strong north wind swept across the Kansas and Nebraska prairies, the wires rapidly became coated with ice and one by one snapped under the burden. Apparently the storm increased in intensity as it sped across Missouri and Iowa, and this morning neither the Western Union nor Postal Telegraph companies had a wire working into Chicago from Denver. Neither company has any information regarding the extent of the storm east of the Missouri river.

The Gunnison branch of the Colorado & Southern railroad is practically tied up by the blizzard raging in the region of Alpine pass. This is also true of the Leadville branch. A passenger train on this line is reported to be stuck in the nsow at Platt canyon.

WELCOMED AT PANAMA.

Taft Lands at Colon and Proceeds to Headquarters at Culebra

Panama, Jan. 30.—President-elect Taft today made his trip across the Isthmus of Panama and everywhere was greeted with marked demonstrations of good will. With his party, Mr. Taft landed this morning at Colon and proceeded by special train to Culebra, where tonight he is quartered at the residence of Lieutenant-Colonel Goethals, chairman of the Panama Canal commission.

The reception by the Panama officials, both at Colon and Culebra was most cordial. Tomorrow Mr. Taft will visit the site of the Gatun dam. All members of the party are in good health.

Colonel Goethals, Joseph Blackburn, governor of the canal zone; Colonel C. W. Gorgas, chief sanitary officer, and other prominent persons immediately boarded the North Carolina from the tug Crystal and welcomed the president-elect.

The first person to shake the hands of Mr. and Mrs. Taft when they landed was Governor Melendez of Colon.

At Culebra the president-elect was received ceremoniously by President Obaldia's cabinet.

The president-elect will sail from Colon for New Orleans next Friday.

$40,000 Fire at Kelso.

Kelso, Wash., Jan. 30.—Kelso is experiencing one of the largest fires in its history. The three-story and two-story Fidler and Gray buildings are a total loss, also the Kelso Journal plant, Robb & Master, grocers, Becker Millinery company, McDermott real estate company, Huntington & Jackson real estate company, besides about a dozen offices. At 14:5 a. m. the fire is still burning, but is well under control. The loss is estimated at $40,000.

Train Stuck in Snowdrift.

La Crosse, Wis., Jan. 30.—Passenger train No. 23 on the Southern Minnesota division of the St. Paul road, running between La Crosse and Westington Springs, S. D., has been stuck in a snowdrift west of Jackson, Minn., since 10 3:0 last night. The train has many passengers, but, being a day train, carries no sleeper or diner. A relief train was started out last night but failed to get through. Passenger train No. 3 on the La Crosse division of the same road was wrecked early today at Portage, Wis., but nobody was injured.