

# INQUIRY IS BEGUN

## Congress Begins Work on Ballinger-Pinchot Rangle.

### RESOLUTION APPROVED BY TAFT

Facts and Underlying Motives to Have Thorough Airing—Nelson to Preside at Hearings.

Washington, Jan. 6.—President Taft has seen and approved the Jones-Humfrey resolution for the investigation by a joint committee of the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy, which for a time threatened almost to wreck his administration, and the resolution was introduced in each branch of congress yesterday. It is a resolution purposely designed to give the committee the fullest scope for its work. Its joint authors are from the state of Washington.

Six senators and six members of the house will constitute the committee. They are empowered to "make a thorough and complete investigation of the interior department, its several bureaus, officers and employes, and of the bureau of forestry in the agricultural department." The resolution directs inquiry into the subjects of "the reclamation, conservation, management and disposal of the public land of the United States, or any land held in trust by the United States for any purpose, including all the natural resources of such lands." The usual power to sit in the recesses of congress, to summon and compel the attendance of all witnesses and to obtain documents is granted. In other words, if the inquiry is not as thorough, and if it does not go as deeply into the subject matter as that of any committee ever appointed by congress, it will not be for want of authority so to do.

Not only is authority given to probe into the merits of the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy, so far as it relates to the conservation and management of the public lands, but there is additional authority sufficient to go beneath the surface, to find the motive, to ascertain where the whole thing originated, and to discover whether, as is believed generally here, the whole series of attacks upon Judge Ballinger was inspired in the forestry bureau. If it is found that it was so inspired, the committee has full power to ascertain exactly which persons were parties to or the instigators of the attack. Under the extremely liberal power to summon witnesses, there is little chance for the guilty ones to escape.

One feature of the investigation will be the opportunity it will give for the examination of the so-called "muck-rakers" of eastern magazine journalism, who have boasted in some instances of their intention to force Secretary Ballinger out of the cabinet. The jurisdiction of the committee is not limited. Thus, the magazine writers, whether they live in Washington, or in New York, or any other point, or whether they are in the field, will be compelled, when subpoenaed, to come and explain—and to substantiate, if they can—many of the things they have been telling their readers in the past six months. The country will have an opportunity to judge for itself how reliable they are. This one feature of the investigation promises to furnish the committee with much amusement.

On the first list of witnesses summoned, therefore, it is likely that there will appear the following names:

- L. H. Glavin, late special agent.
- Gifford Pinchot, chief forester.
- Orvorton W. Price, associate forester.
- A. C. Shaw, law officer, forest service.
- John B. Matthews, magazine writer.
- Norman Hapgood, editor of *Colliers*.
- Mark Sullivan, *Colliers*.
- R. W. Wooley, magazine writer.
- R. A. Ballinger, secretary of the interior.

Fred Dennett, commissioner general of the land office.

Frank Pierce, assistant secretary of the interior.

President Taft intends to have the committee name a competent attorney to conduct the investigation in chief and it is believed likely that each of the principals will be represented by counsel. The provision of the resolution for the employment of assistance, "legal or otherwise," has the full approval of the president. It will permit, also, if it is found advisable, the employment of experts in the subjects into which the committee will inquire.

### Hughes Opposes New Tax.

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 6.—Governor Hughes, in his annual message to the legislature yesterday, dwelt at length on the proposed constitutional amendment conferring on the federal government the power to lay and collect an income tax "from whatever source derived" without apportionment among the states according to population, and in conclusion recommended that this amendment be not ratified. The governor said he was in favor of giving the federal government power to tax all incomes, save those derived from state or municipal bonds.

### Clements Still Grieves.

New York, Jan. 6.—In bad health and grief-stricken at the recent death of his daughter, Jean, Samuel L. Clements, better known as Mark Twain, has sailed for Bermuda. Mr. Clements said the ailment of which he complained on his arrival from Bermuda two weeks ago had returned. He attributed the pain in his left breast, however, to indigestion, "and that is not the sort of ailment that causes people to die," he added.

### Hunters Reach Butiaba.

Butiaba, Jan. 6.—Colonel Roosevelt and his comrades have arrived here from Holma. The party will make a hunting trip on the Lado Enclave in search of the white rhino.

## MORSE IS BITTER.

Convicted Banker Claims He Has Been Made a Victim.

New York, Jan. 4.—With a supreme effort to be cheerful, but with emotion occasionally getting the better of him, Charles W. Morse left New York today to begin a 15-year sentence in the federal prison at Atlanta, Ga., for violation of the national banking laws.

Before leaving the Tombs, where he had been confined for the greater part of the last year, Morse received his wife and two sons and then the newspaper men. He was too affected to say anything, but handed out a carefully prepared statement.

Morse left at 10:45 o'clock in custody of Deputy United States marshals. The party occupied a stateroom. Morse's statement is bitter and dramatic.

"I am going to Atlanta to begin penal servitude under the most brutal sentence ever pronounced against a citizen in a civilized country," is his opinion of the sentence.

"I have hoped," the statement continues, "with that hope which comes from a consciousness of my innocence, that I will not have to close out forever the light and liberty of this world under such an inhuman sentence. I have felt that the fact that I had paid a fine of \$7,000,000 and served a year in prison would satisfy the cry for a victim and I have steadily believed that the courts would be compelled to give me a new trial."

"When I learned that the private detectives of the prosecution were the keepers of the jury, that the jury drank like men upon a jaunt or a holiday, rather than citizens engaged in a serious service, and that as a result, two of them were rendered unfit, I naturally hoped I would be allowed another trial by another jury, free from these hostile influences.

"It seems, however, that the courts intend to establish the practices which make rum-drinking a part of a jury service and private detectives as the custodians of a jury permanent institution. By this sentence and judgment I may be brought to ruin; but the damage done to me is not half as important as the injury to the administration of justice. I am now up in years and must, with the passing of time, pass also; but the record of my conviction and the way it was brought about will remain a lasting and dangerous example of a government gone mad in search of a victim."

### OIL FOUND IN ATHABASCA.

Secret Borings Show Inexhaustible Supply, Committee Is Told.

Ottawa, Ont., Jan. 4.—Evidence of the value of the Athabasca oil fields has been given before the Dominion senate committee by Alfred von Hammerstein. He stated that for the last eight years he had been exploring the field between 329 and 350 miles north of Edmonton, and that some of the wells had revealed the presence of oil and gas in large quantities. The wells varied in depth from 250 to 1,200 feet. He showed samples of naphtha oil and of oil collected in the sand. He declared that in the wells which he was boring there were inexhaustible supplies of this material. Near the surface it was found in a hardened state, while 60 feet lower down it was found in a semi-liquid condition.

His work had been carried on secretly. He declared that there was no foundation for the statement in the prospectus of the California & Alberta Oil company that it had discovered oil on a 10,000-acre property 30 miles north of Edmonton.

### AIR CUTTERS ARE READY.

Aviators Arrive in New York From Paris—Leave for Los Angeles.

New York, Jan. 4.—Edwin Cleary, who arrived here from Paris a few days ago with seven aeroplanes, which he expects to try out during aviation week at Los Angeles, and Paulhan, who will arrive tomorrow, will leave for Los Angeles Monday next. Four of the machines are of the latest model aeroplanes, two Blériot's and two Farman's.

There is also an Antoinette, one Farman and one Blériot, which Mr. Cleary expects to use during the aviation show week. He expects to break his own record for speed, height and duration. His record already is more than 1,900 feet for height and with his 50 horse-power motor in a new Blériot he expects to be able to travel in the air at the rate of 50 miles per hour.

Paulhan is under contract at a big salary.

### South Pole Next Goal.

Worcester, Mass., Jan. 4.—Donald B. McMillan, member of Commander Peary's polar expedition, and Captain Bartlett, who commanded Peary's ship, the Roosevelt, today said that they would like to be members of the expedition to seek the South Pole. Captain Bartlett said: "I have heard of such a trip being planned. I may be selected to command the ship which will carry the expedition southward. I think the Roosevelt will be selected, if the expedition goes through."

### Mining Plant Is Burned.

Spokane, Wash., Jan. 4.—The sorting plant and ore bins of the Mace mines at Mace, Idaho, in the Coeur d'Alene, burned today, together with the sorting machinery, heating plant, blacksmith shop and 200 feet of expensive cribbing, entailing a loss estimated tonight at between \$75,000 and \$100,000. The fire is believed to have broken out in the heating plant. All the property destroyed is owned by the Federal Mining & Smelting company. The sorting plant handled ore from the Standard and other Mace mines.

### Heavy Steel Is in Demand.

New York, Jan. 4.—Specifications on contracts for finished steel products were heavy in the last week of the year, notably for structural material, steel sheets and wire products. Orders for small buildings in various parts of the country have been placed, calling for 25,000 tons of fabricated steel, making the December total 125,000 tons. Contracts for 1909 aggregated almost 1,500,000 tons.

# NEWS ITEMS FROM WASHINGTON, D. C.

## Congress Convenes.

Washington, Jan. 4.—A lowering of the bars in favor of fermented, malt or fruit beverages at army post exchanges and on army transports, but permitting "no distilled nor ardent spirits to be sold," is provided by a bill introduced in the house by Representative Parker, chairman of the judiciary committee.

The measure provides that the favored beverages may be sold, under proper regulations, by enlisted men or other persons authorized.

The increased cost of living was the subject of a concurrent resolution offered in the House today by Representative Hull, of Tennessee. It provides for a joint committee of the house and senate to investigate and report what remedies may be effected through legislation.

Secretary Wilson, of the Department of Agriculture, has ordered a sweeping inquiry of the same nature.

"I realize," said Secretary Wilson, "that we have undertaken a big contract, but we can carry it out. We have the men and we have the money."

A bill making sweeping changes in the interstate commerce laws for the regulation of railroads was introduced today in the House by Representative Mann of Illinois, chairman of the committee on interstate and foreign commerce.

Representative Hawley today introduced his bill granting to the State of Oregon the right to make lieu selections, equal in area and value, to all school lands embraced in forest reserves.

Late today after a conference with Senators Aldrich and Root and Attorney-General Wickersham, President Taft decided to revert to his original plan of combining his views as to amendments to the interstate commerce and anti-trust laws in one message, which he will send to congress Thursday noon.

An aggregate of \$6,344,000 of repairs to naval vessels is provided in estimates the secretary of the navy today submitted to the house. The recent legislation required recommendations for authorization where repairs are to exceed \$200,000.

## Wednesday, January 5.

Washington, Jan. 5.—Senator Nelson, chairman of the public lands committee, today introduced a bill proposing radical changes in the methods of disposing of public lands. The bill authorizes the secretary of the interior to withdraw from settlement public lands for water power, forestry or irrigation purposes, the order of withdrawal to remain in force until revoked by congress.

It directs the secretary to classify public lands into eight classes, agricultural, irrigable, dry farming, timber, coal, mineral, national forests and water power, and water power, and provides disposition of each class as follows: Agricultural, by homesteading only; irrigable, by operation only of national reclamation and Carey acts; dry farming, by 320-acre homestead act; timber lands shall not be sold, but timber they contain shall be sold to highest bidders and proceeds divided between states and national reclamation fund; mineral lands shall be opened to prospecting and purchase practically as at present; coal lands shall not be sold and coal, asphaltum and phosphate they contain shall be disposed of by lease; forest lands shall be retained in national forests; power lands shall not be sold, but shall be leased for periods determined by the interior department.

Characterizing Representative Mann's white slave bill as drastic and revolutionary, three Democratic members of the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce, led by Representative Richardson, of Alabama, today filed in the house the minority report on that measure, which was favorably acted upon by that committee before the holiday recess.

### President Sends Special Message.

Washington, Jan. 8.—President Taft's promised message on the subjects of rate regulation and the control of the so-called "trusts" was transmitted to congress today. It follows closely the line of the president's speeches in the past. It suggests the creation of a court of commerce, with power to review the acts of the interstate commerce commission, with some changes in the power and jurisdiction of the commission itself, and the enactment of a federal incorporation act, as a means for permitting those combinations which exist legitimately to continue to do business.

### Patrick Henry's Body to be Moved.

Richmond, Jan. 5.—It has practically been determined to move the body of Patrick Henry from Red Hill, Charlotte county, to this city for reburial in the churchyard of the old St. John's church in which Henry made his famous revolutionary speech. The present grave is in the rear of the old Henry house at Red Hill, unmarked except by a small slab. A bill is to be presented to the Virginia legislature in January appropriating funds for a monument.

### Trust Cases Coming Up.

Washington, Jan. 4.—This week will be marked by the resumption of two federal actions against corporations. The hearing on the "tobacco trust" case will be taken up by the United States Supreme court. At the same time the resumption of testimony designed to compel a disjuncture of the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific systems. The railroad case will be heard in New York.

## CONSOLIDATE REPUBLICS

Minister Barrett Says This Will Be Outcome of Trouble.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Consolidation of the five Central American republics into one government is the plan the State department is working on, according to information from an authoritative source tonight. In the immediate future only such steps as will bring about the commercial development of the countries, their establishment on a sound financial basis and the stimulation of an entente between the republics, are contemplated.

The first note of the new program was sounded by John Barrett, director of the bureau of American republics. In his recent Toledo speech, Barrett declared that eventually the United States of Central America would be an accomplished fact.

On the heels of this announcement came the declaration of Senor Creel, the special agent of Mexico, who said on leaving Washington:

"The United States and Mexico will continue cooperating to bring about peace in Central America and to give solid substance to the Washington convention of 1907 and to develop a feeling of high respect to the international court at Carthage."

It is positively stated that the relations of the United States and Mexico have not been strained in the slightest by the Nicaraguan episode.

It is the conviction of the present administration that the influential element of the republics can be won over by giving a staple basis of commerce. The removal of Zelaya means the elimination of the troublemaker of Central America. It is necessary to the success of the plan to eliminate all traces of Zelayanism, for the reason if Madrid shows any disposition to compromise with Zelayanism, his chances for recognition from the United States are small.

## FOREIGN TRADE \$1,475,000,000

Imports of Raw Materials Lead—Exports of Cotton Show Big

Washington, Jan. 5.—The foreign commerce of the United States in the year 1909 will exceed in value that of any earlier year, with a single exception. The imports will be larger than in any previous year, while the exports will fall slightly below those of 1906 and 1907.

The above is an estimate of the year's trade based on official figures for 11 months as presented by the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor. Assuming that the twelfth month, December, shows figures of imports and exports approximately equal to those of the immediately preceding month, November, the imports will aggregate about \$1,475,000,000, and the exports about \$1,750,000,000, of which approximately \$25,000,000 consists of foreign merchandise exported, and the remainder, \$1,725,000,000, domestic products.

Imports free of duty will be larger than in any earlier year in the history of our commerce and will aggregate approximately \$700,000,000, against a little over \$500,000,000 in 1908 and \$636,000,000 in 1907, the high record year prior to 1909. Dutiable imports will amount to about \$780,000,000, and will be larger than any preceding year, except possibly in 1907, when the total was \$787,000,000. This estimated total of \$1,475,000,000 of imports in the year exceeds by over \$50,000,000 the highest import record of any earlier year, that of 1907.

Of this \$1,475,000,000 of imports, about \$625,000,000 is raw material for use in manufacturing and \$260,000,000 partially manufactured material for further use in manufacturing, making the total value of manufacturers' materials imported nearly \$800,000,000, or more than half the entire imports of the year.

### Taft Makes Nominations.

Washington, Jan. 7.—President Taft today sent to the senate nominations for justices of the new court of customs appeals created under the provisions of the Payne-Aldrich tariff bill:

Judge Alfred C. Cox, of Utica, N. Y., is made presiding judge, with the following as the justices: William H. Hunt, of Montana; General James F. Smith, of San Francisco, former governor general of the Philippines, and O. M. Barber, of Vermont.

At the same time President Taft sent in the name of Marion De Vries, of San Francisco, as the new chairman of the board of general appraisers of customs at New York.

### Museum for Roosevelt Trophies

Washington Jan. 6.—After having been in course of construction for four years, the new national museum in this city will be opened to the public by the middle of February. One section of the mammoth building has been practically completed. It is in this building that the Roosevelt collection of African mammals will be exhibited. It will take a year, however, to mount enough of these trophies to make a fair exhibition.

### Changes in Commerce Law.

Washington, Jan. 6.—Representative Mann has introduced in the house a bill that would make sweeping changes in the interstate commerce law for the regulation of railroads. It is in accordance with the administration bill, but it does not create an interstate commerce court. It provides for the establishment of a bureau of transportation in the department of commerce and labor, to hear complaints.

## COLONIST TRAVEL HEAVY.

Year of 1909 Was Record-Breaker. More Expected in 1910.

Chicago, Jan. 3.—The colonizing work done by the railroads in the west and Pacific northwest during the spring and fall of 1909 broke all records in railway history. Figures prepared by the management of the Harriman lines show that the number of colonists who were taken into the Pacific coast territory far exceeded the number in any other year.

The increase over the colonist movement of 1908 was fully 70 per cent, and may have been in excess of this.

Figures for the movement over the Hill lines are not available, the management refusing to give any detailed information regarding the number of new home-makers they transported into the northwest during the last year.

It is understood, however, that the Hill lines did not make as determined an effort to secure colonists as they have made in former years. This fact is said to be due to trouble in the colonist department of the Northern Pacific which led late in the year to the resignation of C. W. Mott, general immigration agent. On the Great Northern road, the illness of Max Bass, general immigration agent, which resulted in his death, somewhat retarded the work of taking homeseekers to the northwest.

It is understood that in 1910 the management of both the Great Northern and the Northern Pacific, aided by the management of the Burlington, are to make a special effort toward populating the vacant lands along their lines in the fertile states of the northwest.

In each year the railroads have two short periods which they call colonist periods. The spring colonist period is from March 1 to April 30, while the fall period is from September 15 to October 15. In the fall period of 1909, the Harriman lines sold a total of 11,541 tickets to California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, Colorado and Wyoming points. In the corresponding period of 1908, the same lines sold a total of 6,227. The increase for 1909 was 5,314 tickets. This is an increase for the fall period of 85 per cent. In the fall of 1908 colonist tickets were sold between September 1 and October 31, during which time the Harriman line sold a total of 15,816 tickets. Accordingly, in just half the time in the fall of 1909 the Harriman lines sold within 4,275 tickets of the number sold during the 60-day period of 1908.

## DYNAMITERS IN TOLLS.

Striking Railroad Machinists Attempt Violence, Is Belief.

Baltimore, Jan. 3.—Following an attempt last evening to blow up the Gay-street bridge of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, three men were arrested on a charge of conspiracy with intent to dynamite the bridge and also the Mount Clair machine shops of the company. The bridge was not seriously damaged.

William R. Shipley, Hamilton W. Lighter and William H. Zimmerman, all machinists, were later taken into custody. Detective Captain Humphrey claims to have evidence directly implicating the men.

Both Zimmerman and Shipley, who went out with the striking machinists of the Baltimore & Ohio here last May in formal statements today confessed they had engaged in a plot to blow up the Mount Clair shops last night.

In the shops at the time the bomb was to be exploded were more than 1,000 workmen, and the alleged plotters admitted that they did not know how many persons might have been killed by the explosion. Detectives are looking for three other men, whom they say they can connect with the plot.

### Prison Cruelty Alleged.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 3.—General Dodd, formerly overseer of the city prison, testifying before the investigating committee, in addition to corroborating the stories of cruelty to prisoners, and of filthy and unsanitary conditions, declared that the food served the prisoners was unfit even for the lowest kind of animals. Prisoners frequently showed bread containing flies, he said, and one man brought him a piece of bread containing a spider. He declared the place was overrun with vermin.

Pearl Bryan, one of three white women who was hung up by rings while at the stockade, said she was strung up nearly 45 minutes and was only taken down when they saw blood running down her arms.

### Mount Pelee Is Active.

St. Thomas, D. W. I., Jan. 3.—Cable advices received here report a violent earthquake in the French island of Martinique and the British island of St. Vincent early today. Mount Pelee, a volcano on the island of Martinique, and La Soufriere, in St. Vincent, are reported active. A message from Fort de France, Martinique, says an earthquake shock was felt, but no damage was done. Nothing has been heard from St. Vincent since early today. Considerable anxiety is felt here about Kingston, Jamaica.

### Paroled Convict Is Shot.

Chicago, Jan. 3.—Harry Featherstone, a paroled convict, who has a long police record, was shot and seriously injured here today in a chase which followed a robbery of a South Side saloon. Featherstone and two companions were pursued after they had rifled the till and a policeman who joined in the chase sent a bullet into Featherstone's back. Search was begun for his companions. According to the police, Featherstone has participated in many daring robberies.

### Labor Fights Big Trust.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Officers of the American Federation of Labor tonight issued a call on its 1,540,000 members to subscribe to a fund with which to wage a fight on the steel trust. The call arraigns the corporation as inimical both to labor and to the country and as a violator of the laws. The sum of \$154,000 is to be raised at once.

# \$150,000,000 TRUST

J. P. Morgan, T. F. Ryan and Levi P. Morton Form Combine.

## BIGGEST MERGER IN AMERICA

Represents Three Banking and Trust Companies, With Deposits of Over \$133,000,000.

New York, Jan. 4.—J. Pierpont Morgan, Thomas F. Ryan and Levi P. Morton linked hands in New York today in a trust company merger which unites resources of \$150,000,000.

It is a triple combination, bringing the Guaranty Trust company, the Morton Trust company and the Fifth Avenue Trust company, all of this city, under one head with the title of the Guaranty Trust company.

The merger is perhaps the largest of its kind in the United States. Directors of all three companies met today and informally proposed the terms of merger which will be put in more definite form Wednesday, when another directors' meeting will be held and the plan ratified by stockholders. The formal vote will not be taken until later. Levi P. Morton, president of the Morton Trust company and of the Fifth Avenue Trust company—both known as Morton-Ryan concerns—has consented to act as chairman of the board of the merged companies. No president has been selected. Alexander J. Hemphill, vice-president and acting president of the Guaranty Trust company, has been mentioned for the position.

The new move in finance follows the recent absorption of the Guaranty Trust company by the so-called Morgan interests, but upon just what terms the merger was made is not disclosed. The Guaranty Trust company was organized in 1891 and has total deposits of more than \$88,000,000.

The Morton Trust company, formerly the banking house of Bliss, Morton & Co., was organized in 1899. Thomas F. Ryan is vice-president. Its deposits aggregate more than \$45,000,000. Like the Guaranty Trust company, its capital and surplus are \$2,000,000 each.

The Fifth Avenue Trust company, founded ten years ago, is one of the better known up-town financial institutions. With a capital and surplus of \$1,000,000 each it has paid large dividends. The capital stock of the new company probably will be fixed at \$5,000,000, with perhaps a like amount for surplus. It is believed that the merger will involve the large stock and cash dividends to the shareholders of the three companies.

The present premises of the Fifth Avenue Trust company will be retained as a branch of the combined companies while the main offices will be in the financial district.

It is rumored that the Morgan interests had acquired the holdings of Thomas F. Ryan in the Morton Trust company, but no statement on this point was obtainable.

## CALIFORNIA HAS NEW PEST.

Insect Like Ladybug Lays Waste Many Grain Fields.

Jackson, Cal., Jan. 4.—A bug, somewhat like the common ladybug, has made its appearance near here. In sowing a piece of land to grain, a number of sacks were left over night in the field. An examination the next day led to the discovery that each sack was swarming with small bugs with a dark yellowish back. Other parts of this county were affected by the same kind of insects, it is believed, last year. The lands so visited were denuded of all vegetation, and the soil produced nothing for that season. It was as if a fire had swept over the surface. One large ranch had fully 100 acres so affected last year.

While there is no general appearance of the bug in the county, it has appeared in localities wide apart.

## Message in Sections.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Following a forenoon conference with presidents of six of the great railroad systems, President Taft late this afternoon announced a change of program in the sending of his message dealing with interstate commerce and anti-trust law amendments to congress.

The message will be split into two parts. The section dealing with trusts will be sent to congress Thursday noon. The section dealing with the interstate commerce law, in which railroads are directly interested, will be deferred until Friday. The president's special message on conservation of natural resources is expected to be ready for congress Monday.

## Negro Refused Entrance.

London, Jan. 4.—A negro who claims American citizenship is an unwelcome guest of the Union Castle Steamship line at Southampton pending the outcome of diplomatic negotiations to determine the man's nationality. The negro was deported from South Africa after he had been convicted of a crime and served a sentence in a British prison. He was returned to New York, but was refused permission to land there as he was unable to satisfy the authorities of his American citizenship.

## March Cause of Mutiny.

Fishers Island, N. Y., Jan. 4.—Many of the non-commissioned officers and men of the One Hundred and Thirty-First company, U. S. Coast Artillery, are confined in the guardhouse, at Fort H. G. Wright, as a result of a mutiny Saturday. The company was ordered out for a march of 15 miles and all but nine men declined to do the duty. It was declared authoritatively today that a majority of the men in the company had been ordered before a court-martial.