

## FINISH IN EIGHT YEARS

That is What Secretary Taft Thinks About the Panama Canal

## IS CHEERED BY MANY

Makes Statement at a Dinner Given by Cincinnati Business Men.

Cincinnati, April 30.—"If the Panama canal is not completed within eight years I shall be greatly disappointed. If it is completed in less time than that, I shall not be greatly surprised." This statement was made by Secretary of War Taft before the business men's club and was loudly applauded by 1500 members of the club gathered in the banquet hall. The banquet came as a climax to the last of three days of the secretary's western trip and it was a fitting culmination to the flattering reception that has been extended him on every side by his Ohio friends. This morning the secretary addressed the law school of the University of Cincinnati and the chamber of commerce. In the afternoon he conferred with N. C. Wright of Cleveland regarding the Ohio political situation.

## CLAIMS THERE IS NO COMPETITION

Judge Lovett Holds Union and Southern Pacific Are Not Rivals.

Washington, April 30.—Judge Robert S. Lovett in his argument before the Interstate Commerce Commission in regard to the purchase of the Southern Pacific by the Union Pacific said:

"It is contended that the Union Pacific system was in a position to compete with the Southern Pacific for California business by its rail

lines from the Missouri river to Granger or Ogden, and then over the Oregon Short line to Huntington, and thence over the rails of the Oregon Railroad and Navigation company to Portland, and thence by the boats of the last named company between Portland and San Francisco.

"But every witness who has testified has declared that route utterly impracticable as a competitor for trans-continental business. After carrying business from Granger or Ogden to Portland, a haul of upwards of 800 miles over a range of mountains, it is no nearer San Francisco than when it left Ogden, and the boats from Portland to San Francisco had no connections to get their business to or from the interior except the Southern Pacific, which, with respect to competitive business, would be a rival.

"Thus the boats would be confined strictly to San Francisco, and, as between the short direct rail line of the Central Pacific to Ogden and the circuitous rail and boat line from Ogden to Portland and thence by sea to San Francisco, there is no difficulty in deciding which route the traffic, even of San Francisco proper would take.

"Moreover, would not the Union Pacific have killed the goose that laid the golden egg if it had attempted to work the rail and water route via Portland against its direct connection—the Central Pacific line—between Ogden and San Francisco. At equal rates all the traffic would undoubtedly move the short all rail route. A reduced open rate would have been met, of course, by the Southern Pacific, and the loss sustained by the Union Pacific as its share of the reduced rates would have exceeded, on account of the vastly greater volume of traffic moving that way, many thousandfold the profit on the business moving via Portland.

"But beyond all this is the practical fact that if the Union Pacific had attempted to work the Portland route against the Southern Pacific, the latter would undoubtedly have retaliated by turning its business to the Rio Grande, and the Union Pacific would have been practically out of the transcontinental business. So it seems to me unnecessary to dwell upon the alleged route of the Union Pacific for California business via Portland, since it is apparent that it was utterly impracticable."

## TEACHERS WILL MEET

Big Annual Gathering to Be Held At Salem By Western Association

## NAME THE COMMITTEE

To Arrange for Entertainment of Over Nine Hundred Visitors to Capital City.

Salem, Ore., April 30.—The annual meeting of the Western Oregon Teachers' Association, which is to be held here July 1, 2 and 3, promises to be of special interest to those interested in pedagogy and in things educational in general. Some of the most prominent speakers on educational topics are to be secured to address the meeting, and many leaders in educational thought will be available, as many will be passing through Oregon at that time on their way to Los Angeles to attend the annual meeting of the National Educational Society. Salem is fortunate in obtaining the meeting of this body this year, on account of the particularly interesting program to be given. The convention will be addressed by such prominent educators as Superintendent L. D. Harvey, of the Stout Manual Training school at Menominee, Wis., and W. E. Chancellor, city superintendent of schools at Washington, D. C., who have already signified their intention to be present at the Salem gathering. Hon. Elmer E. Brown, U. S. commissioner of education, and the state superintendents

of schools of Idaho, Washington and Montana, are to be present, besides a large number of the well known educational leaders of our own state.

Governor George E. Chamberlain will deliver the address of welcome, and Mrs. Clara Waldo, state lecturer of the Oregon Grange, W. P. Olds, of the Portland firm of Olds, Wortman & King, and others have already accepted places on the convention program.

At the meeting of the Marion County Principals' club held at the state house recently, considerable interest was manifested in the coming convention, and all of the teachers present were agreed that enthusiasm should be shown from now on, and that all necessary steps should be taken to advertise and to plan for the meeting. More than 900 teachers are expected here during the three days' session, and to bring the matter more closely to the hearts of the local teachers committees were appointed to boost the meeting and to make arrangements for the entertainment of the visiting delegates.

The place of holding the convention has not yet been decided upon, but it is probable that the opera house will have to be secured for some of the meetings, to accommodate the large number of teachers that will be here. Some of the instructors will conduct their classes at the high school, where most of the meetings will be held with the exception of the evening addresses.

Committees have been named to plan the entertainment of the visitors.

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