



PACKERS GRANTED IMMUNITY

JUDGE HUMPHREY GIVES DECISION

Dismisses Indictment Against Individual Packers But Sustains Charges Against Corporations Trial of Case Will Be Arranged.

PACKERS JUBILANT OVER COURT'S RULING

IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE DECISION PACKERS WHO ARE PRESENT EXCHANGE MUTUAL CONGRATULATIONS OVER THEIR ESCAPE—GOVERNMENT ATTORNEY MOVES AT ONCE TO FIX DATE OF TRIAL.

CHICAGO, March 21.—All the packers indicted by the federal grand jury last summer upon charges of conspiracy in the restraint of trade were granted immunity from criminal prosecution under the indictment. While the individuals are to go free, the indictments found against the corporations, of which some of the indicted individuals are members and others are employees, are to stand. A decision to the above effect was handed down by Judge Humphrey today in the United States district court. The opinion was oral and the judge spoke for nearly an hour before giving the slightest indication of what his ultimate decision would be. He reviewed the case at length, and cited all the essential facts which had been brought out and concluded as follows:

"Under the law in this case, the immunity pleas filed by the defendants will be sustained as to the individuals, and denied as to the corporations, the artificial persons, and the jury will find in favor of the government as far as the corporations are concerned and against the government as far as the individuals are concerned."

When his decision was announced those of the defendants who were present, among them being Edward Swift and Edward Morris and several of Armour's employees, crowded together and commenced to shake hands in mutual congratulations. The attorneys for the defendants were also highly pleased and when the decision was announced, hastened to the jury box to shake hands with the jurors. District Attorney Morrison who was in charge of the case for the government sat with bowed head for a short time after Judge Humphrey had concluded and then walked over to the jury box and also shook hands with the jurors. Immediately following the dismissal of the jury, the district attorney asked that the case be set for trial and that it commence within two weeks. This was met with a storm of protest from the defendants' lawyers who insisted that they would not have time to prepare their case before next fall, owing to the number of witnesses it would be necessary to bring together. Judge Humphrey directed the attorneys to agree among themselves on the date and notify him next week. It is ex-

pected the total number of witnesses will number at least 1000. The packers' attorneys declared today their witnesses would number 1500 and the government already has said it will have 100 or more.

MINISTER INDICTED.

PEORIA, March 21.—Rev. Louis Kelly a Baptist minister and patroner of the late Rev. George Simmons in the defunct People's Savings Bank was indicted for embezzlement today. The indictment charges Kelly with receiving deposits February 5th, the day before Simmons committed suicide, and when he knew the bank was insolvent. Recent developments have shown the bank held notes of Kelly and Simmons the face value of which was \$125,000.

HAS FAULTY MEMORY

Witness in Missouri Oil Hearing Forgets Everything.

The Hearing of the Ouster Case Against the Standard, Republic and Waters-Pierce Companies Adjourns Until April Fifth.

ST. LOUIS, March 21.—The hearing of the ouster case against the Standard, Republic and Waters-Pierce Oil Companies adjourned today until April 5th and Attorney-General Hailey and Assistant Attorney-General Lake immediately departed for New York to attend the oil hearing Friday. Vice-President Finlay of the Waters-Pierce Company testified he had gone to New York and talked with H. M. Tilford of the Standard Oil, but did not remember what was talked about. He was severely cross questioned on the subject of what the Waters-Pierce Company's reports were which were made to the Standard in New York, but the majority of his answers were that he could not remember.

SENATE SPENDS DAY IN CONSIDERING RATE BILL

WASHINGTON, March 21.—The Senate devoted the entire day to a consideration of the rate bill. Cubberly presented an amendment prohibiting corporations from coming under the operation of the proposed law against making campaign contributions and Bailey offered his long expected amendments. He

followed with a speech in which he explained that he would not now present the amendments, but for the fact that Dolliver criticised them in an interview. He expressed his displeasure over the interview, but exonerated Dolliver. Dolliver disavowed any intention of revealing a secret, and the incident closed pleasantly.

OFFICE IS ROBBED

Burglars Enter Attorney Bristol's Office.

THREE ATTEMPTS MADE

Two Robberies Successful and Third One Was Foiled By Bristol.

IS WORK OF LAND FRAUDERS

United States District Attorney Catches One Robber in the Act But Thief Makes His Escape After a Desperate Fight.

PORTLAND, March 21.—Two successful and one unsuccessful attempt to burglarize the office of United States Attorney Bristol on the third floor of the post office building have been made recently according to information which became public today.

The first two times, on which there was an entrance, the desk of special Inspector Neuhausen was ransacked. The third effort was thwarted by Bristol himself, who having occasion to go to his office one evening discovered a man picking the lock in his office door. Bristol undertook to capture the fellow, but the burglar succeeded in escaping after leaving his coat sleeve in Bristol's hands.

That the burglaries were committed in behalf of persons connected with the government land fraud prosecutions is evident from the fact that papers bearing on this subject were carefully segregated, and it is also evident from the manner in which the papers were left that they had been carefully read. The documents in the desk have been checked up and so far as it is able to be ascertained none were stolen. In whose interest the burglaries were committed the government refuses to state, but has intimated that the officials have well grounded suspicions.

ROBBED HIMSELF.

GREAT FALLS, Mont., March 21.—A special to the Tribune from Kalispell states that John Peterson, who reported that he was robbed of \$8000 belonging to the O'Brien Lumber Company, last Thursday, has been arrested.

Detectives have been at work on the case and the arrest of Peterson is the result. Detectives intimate there will be other arrests.

OPTIMISM PREVALENT.

ALGERIRAS, March 21.—The animation and optimism among the delegates tonight leads to the impression that a forward step has been taken. It is stated unofficially that the new Austrian proposition has been informally communicated to the conference.

TYREE COMMITTED FOR TRIAL.

SALT LAKE CITY, March 21.—Hiram Tyree, president of the Continental Life Insurance & Investment Company, today was committed to the District Court in \$5000 bonds for trial under the charge of certifying to the Secretary of State of Utah a false report of the company's business. President Tyree was arrested February 3.

Hiram Tyree was formerly one of the prominent educators of Oregon, having charge of the public schools of Albany, Oregon, which place he left owing to a scandal arising concerning his relations with one of the teachers.

HELD WITHOUT BAIL.

TELLURIDE, March 21.—Vincent St. John, president of the Miners' Union at Burke, Idaho, and brought to Colorado to answer to the charge of being implicated in the conspiracy to murder Ben Burnam was today bound over without bail. Burnam was killed in the labor riots at the Smuggler Union mine in 1901 when St. John was president of the local union.

ARRIVE IN FRISCO.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 21.—A report has been received here from the north of the arrival at Point Barrow of the first and third mates and four men of the wrecked whaling schooner Bonanza. They started in a whale boat provisioned for the trip but the raft was crushed in the ice and for thirty-three days, according to their story, the men had to fight their way over the ice through blinding snowstorms before they reached Point Barrow. They arrived there in a starved condition.

TURN OUT SOCKEYES.

VANCOUVER, B. C., March 21.—Twenty-nine million sockeye salmon will be turned out of the Dominion government hatchery at Harrison Lake next week and the fish from the Seton Lake hatchery will also be shortly released.

REPORTS FAVORABLE

Assembly Committee Favors Nullifying Insurance Proxies.

Bill Which Will be Reported Will Legislate Out of Office Directors and Trustees of Mutual and Nullify Proxies.

ALBANY, March 21.—The assembly committee on insurance in executive session tonight voted to report favorably tomorrow with amendments, a bill introduced by the joint investigating committee which should legislate out of office on November 15th next all directors and trustees of the Mutual Life Insurance companies and nullify all proxies hitherto secured by the companies themselves, by Thomas W. Lawson or by any person or committee. The most important amendment provides that no proxy executed prior to September 15th next will be valid or can be voted at the next election, which the bill sets for November 15th.

It is said upon reliable authority the reason for pushing this particular bill is the fact that the election of the trustees of the New York Life would take place April 11th, and it is the desire of the committee that there be no question that this election be among those postponed by the act.

INDICTED FOR MANSLAUGHTER.

PEORIA, March 21.—George Weatherwax, conductor on the Santa Fe train wrecked at Chillicothe last January and "Jap" Smith, block signal operator in the yards at Chillicothe, were today indicted for manslaughter. Three were killed in the wreck.

ROOSEVELT TALKS WITH MANY LABOR DELEGATES

Need for the Enactment of Labor Measures Now Pending Before Congress is Discussed—President Gompers Speaks.

CHINESE EXCLUSION FAVORED BY ROOSEVELT

PRESIDENT DECLARES HIMSELF OPPOSED TO ADMISSION OF CHINESE COOLIES INTO AMERICA, BUT FAVORED ALLOWING HIGHER CASTE TO ENTER—CANAL ZONE EIGHT-HOUR LABOR LAW IS DISCUSSED.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—President Roosevelt received a large delegation of organized labor today and talked to them about their urgent request for the enactment of the labor measures pending before Congress. Samuel Gompers, president, and Frank Morrison, secretary, of the American Federation, headed the delegation, which numbered about 100. Morrison read a memorial from the executive council of the American Federation of Labor and President Gompers, and First Vice-President Duncan made short speeches, after which the President made an extended address. In brief he stated that he approved of the proposed anti-injunction bill, but believed the laboring men will have no difficulty in stopping it, owing to the antagonism which has developed against it. Regarding the demand for an eight-hour law on the Isthmus of Panama he called attention to the fact

that labor conditions on the Isthmus are very different from those in America.

He stated there was great difficulty in securing any labor at all. White laborers would not go there and they are using the only labor they could get, negroes from the West Indies. To grant the demand would greatly hamper the work. Regarding Chinese exclusion the president stated he was unquestionably opposed to the admission of coolie labor, skilled or unskilled, but would do all that is possible to secure the easy admission of the Chinese business and professional classes, students and travelers. He asserted there is no appreciable influx of Chinese laborers and that there is not the slightest danger of any. Earlier in the day the delegation called on Speaker Cannon and Senator Frye, President pro tem of the Senate and laid before them the same memorial.

CONTRACT LET.

PORTLAND, March 21.—The contract was awarded today for constructing that part of the Elgin Joseph extension between the junction of the Grande Ronde and Willowa rivers and Joseph. The road will be in operation by 1907.

EQUINOXIAL STORM.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., March 21.—An equinoxial gale raged last night and today is over the whole coast causing widespread damage. Shipping reports from various centers show several vessels are wrecked and wharves and other property destroyed.

NEW AMBASSADOR.

VIENNA, March 21.—The Foreign office was informed this afternoon of the appointment of Charles Francis to be the American ambassador at Vienna.

TALK NAVAL AFFAIRS.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—Secretary Bonaparte appeared before the House committee on naval affairs today and discussed the naval appropriations. Among matters urged was an appropriation for a stationary drydock at Puget Sound.

REPORT IS READY

House Committee Finds Federal Control Unconstitutional.

Committee Will Report to House That There is no Constitutional Authority for Federal Control of the Insurance Corporations.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—That there is no constitutional authority for federal control of insurance or other state corporations other than the railroads is to be the conclusion reported to the House by the judiciary committee. The report has been drafted by Chairman Jenkins and is now in the hands of the members of the committee for perusal. The report reduces the whole problem to these two principles. The supreme court of the United States has declared and has never been shaken or weakened in maintaining, first, that insurance is not commerce secondly, that Congress cannot impair the police powers of states.

MRS. HUNTINGTON FILES A SUIT FOR DIVORCE

SAN FRANCISCO, March 21.—Mrs. H. E. Huntington today filed a suit in the superior court praying for a divorce from H. E. Huntington, the well known railroad man, and a nephew and the principal heir of Collis H. Huntington. Mrs. Huntington's complaint is very

brief simply alleging desertion since 1900. The case is set for hearing tomorrow. It is understood there will be no contest, satisfactory arrangements of the property interests having been made. Mr. and Mrs. Huntington have two grown daughters and one son. The suit will doubtless be granted at once.