



## HOUSE WILL ASK PRESIDENT TO PROVE HIS CHARGES

### Resolution to This Effect is Passed

### BY UNANIMOUS VOTE

### Burkett Favors Bank Bill and Makes Comprehensive Argument for Passage

### DAY PROVES A QUIET ONE

### Senate Adjourns at 2:30—Great Many Senators Leave Washington to Spend Christmas at Home—Will Convene on January 4.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—By unanimous vote the House today adopted a resolution presented by a special committee of five calling on the president for proof of his charge that members are fearful of investigation by the secret service. The committee submitted its report and recommendation immediately after the House convened. The remainder of the day was given over to consideration of bills on the private calendar, a large number of which were passed. The postal savings bank bill was before the Senate today for more than an hour. Senator Burkett making comprehensive argument in favor of its passage. The Senate listened also to a message from the president recommending a change in the government of the District of Columbia by which a single executive head would take the place of three commissioners who act as a governing board. At 2:30 p. m. the Senate adjourned until Saturday. On that day nothing but routine business which may come up in the morning hour will be transacted. A great many senators left Washington today to pass the holidays at their homes, as congress will adjourn Saturday until January 4.

### ROOSEVELT AND TAFT.

### President Has Last Conference With Taft Before Latters Panama Trip

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—At the request of President Roosevelt, President-elect Taft came to Washington today from New York and passed two hours in conference with the President.

President sent word to Taft that he earnestly desired to see Taft.

## CAPITOL EXCITED OVER WAR REPORT

### Flurry in Diplomatic Circles at Rumor That Venezuela and Holland Had Declared War

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—A flurry was caused in diplomatic circles today over the report which was generally obtained that Venezuela had declared war against Holland. These reports had their foundation in a dispatch which came to the state department by way of Bogota, transmitting a telegram from Caracas saying the government had made such a declaration. It was pointed out, however, that the announcement was based on Vice-President Gomez's declaration that the country is in a state of defense because Holland had seized

Taft arrived at the White House at the president's regular luncheon hour. As this was the last opportunity the president will have to discuss with Taft his Panama trip, it is believed that the subject occupied most of their time.

At the Union Station, Taft was joined by his sons and they accompanied him South. Taft and party are due at Augusta tomorrow morning.

## COPPER PRODUCERS TO FORM COMBINE

### REPRESENTATIVES OF LEADING COMPANIES TO MEET AT NEW YORK TODAY.

### WILL CONTROL THE OUTPUT

### Denied That Any Attempt Will be Made to Regulate Prices But Some Agreement to Control the Output is Probable.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Representatives of leading copper interests of this country and Europe will meet here tomorrow and organize international association of copper producers, refiners and manufacturers.

Phelps, Dodge & Company, who recently incorporated their properties into \$50,000,000, are said to be taking an active part in the movement, although no information on the point was obtainable from that source today. Interests concerned are said to represent about 65 per cent of the world's copper output. It is proposed to organize statistical bureau and disseminate information at regular periods at regular periods, so as to keep the manufacturers and consumers in touch with trade conditions. It is denied however, that any attempt will be made to regulate prices, but some agreements as to the output is probable. So far as could be learned, interests identified with this movement are not in any way connected with capitalists who are reported to be organizing an independent smelter.

### MANILA BAND COMING.

MANILA, Dec. 17.—The band of the constabulary force has completed its arrangements to proceed to Washington in the spring in order to participate in the parade at the inauguration of President-elect Taft. The band will then make a concert tour of the United States before returning to Manila.

### PROVES SUCCESSFUL.

### New Constitutional Government Inaugurated at Constantinople.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 17.—The new constitutional government was inaugurated today with every sign of success. New parliament, elected under constitution promulgated by Sultan last spring was opened and everything passed off without the slightest disorder. The fact that the Sultan came out openly to meet his people on this occasion has gone a long way toward removing effects of the past evils attributed to the palace rule. Tonight the streets are full of life and the city is brilliantly illuminated.

### EXTREMES MEET.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 17.—The Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce has joined hands with the Spokane commercial organization in protesting against a proposed tariff reduction on lead ore and bullion. At the directors meeting yesterday H. C. Osborn, chairman of the mining committee, submitted a report which protests vigorously against the proposed reduction and which was forwarded to senators and congressmen in Washington today.

### MOONSHINERS CAUGHT.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—While the internal revenue officers in the South are battling with "moonshiners," fire in Hopkins avenue, Williamsburg, late last night uncovered what is believed to be an illicit distillery in a two-story building and government officers have begun an investigation to break up traffic which it is presumed is carried on in the confines of Greater New York. When the firemen arrived on the scene last night it was discovered that one of the caldrons used in making liquor had evidently boiled over, starting the blaze. This was easily extinguished and the fireman began an investigation which resulted in the discovery of several copper vats, thirty gallons of spirits, several demijohns and jugs. The police were notified and they immediately got in communication with the internal revenue officers who are now seeking the former occupants of the room in question. A man was seen to leave the place hurriedly when the firemen first appeared on the scene.

## UPPER BERTHS SHOULD BE CHEAPEST

### PULLMAN ACCOMMODATIONS AGAIN TAKEN UP BY INTERSTATE.

### COST SHOULD BE ONLY HALF

### Witnesses Also Testify That it is Necessary to "Tip" Porters to Get Any "Kind of Service" is Taken Under Advisement.

CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—The upper berths in the Pullman was further disparaged today when two women took the stand before the Interstate Commerce Commission, Lane, who is considering the plea that the upper berth should cost only half as much as the lower. The witness also affirmed that it is terrible to tip the porter, and said that tipping is being necessary to get "any kind of service." Both witnesses testified that they never take an upper berth unless compelled to by circumstances both agreeing that there is a deal of trouble in getting in and out of one and that the ventilation is bad.

Commissioner Lane took the case, which specifically applies to rates between Chicago and St. Paul, under advisement, and left for Washington tonight. Other cases involving rates between Duluth and St. Paul, and St. Paul and Seattle will be heard later.

## O. R. N. TRAIN IS HELD UP

### Four Unmasked Men Get Little for Pains

### BLOW UP EXPRESS CAR

### Robbers do not Molest the Passengers and Work Like Amateurs

### MESSENGERS CLEVER TRICK

### Express Messenger When he Hears Robbers Forcing Entrance Takes Money From Safe and Throws in Corner of Car.

PORTLAND, Dec. 17.—O. R. & N. train No. 1, Conductor Dunn, was held up and the express dynamited by four unmasked robbers shortly after 9 o'clock tonight nine miles east of Portland. Express Messenger O. H. Huff is authority for the statement that the robbers secured little of value. The robbers did not molest the passengers, but uncoupled the express car and ordered the engineer to take it down the track toward Portland. About a mile beyond the point where the train was held up the doors of the express car were shattered by the use of nitro-glycerine. Once inside the car the robbers discovered to their dismay that the train did not carry a through safe, a small local safe being the only receptacle for valuables. The robbers compelled Huff to open the small safe. It contained but three or four small packages, of little value. The strong box was not touched. Express Messenger Huff was obliged to give up about \$3.00 of his personal money and the robbers quit the car, escaping in the darkness. The robbers boarded the train at Hood River and had reached a point one mile west of Clarno when suddenly the engineer heard a command to obey the robbers' instructions. As the command was accompanied by a display of firearms the order was obeyed. The robbers then ordered the engineer to stop the train and in a twinkling the express car was cut off from the rest of the train. The engineer was commanded to proceed and after going about a mile he was told to stop. The robbery followed.

The engine was then cut off and the quartet boarded it, forcing the engineer to bring the engine to Montavilla, about four miles east of here. There they jumped off and disappeared in the darkness. One of the robbers had his face blackened. He is believed to be a Swede. The express messenger was able to give a more or less accurate description of two of the quartet. A special train has left this city for the scene. It carries a posse of deputy sheriffs, railroad detectives and officials of the O. R. & N. The looted train train reached the Union Depot in this city late tonight. The express car was not badly damaged and save for a broken door showed little effect of the robbery. Interviews with trainmen are to the effect that while the robbers were forcing an entrance into the car, Huff opened the way to the safe which is stated to have contained bags of money aggregating somewhere between \$2000 and \$4000 and thrown them into the corner of the car behind some merchandise. Huff, according to their version, as a blind, seized three or four packages of cheap jewelry from a shelf and

put them into the safe throwing the door to, but not locking it. Messenger Huff says that the robbers used two charges of nitro-glycerine to effect the entrance. They selected the second of the two express cars to operate on. It was in the front one they immediately came on. "I was in the front one," Huff said, "when they immediately came through to my car, and flashing a spot light on me, made me hold up my hands. Then they made me open the safe. There was nothing in it except some packages of cheap jewelry which they took. I believe the robbers were amateurs at the business; they kept up shouting and swearing like troopers all the time they were in the car and were greatly enraged when they got no money."

### MELBA TO AUSTRALIA.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Mme. Nellie Melba, who recently arrived here to fill a limited engagement at the Manhattan House, announced last night that she had completed arrangements for her trip to her home in Australia. She will leave New York on January 13, going directly to Melbourne. Mme. Melba's visit to Australia is expected to occupy a year and is said to be entirely devoid of professional import. While her voyage to the Antipodes is taken for family and sentimental reasons, it is more than likely that the famous singer will be heard in concert during her Australian stay.

### IS A COSTLY TRIP.

CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—The combined salaries of 17,000 ministers for one year would be needed to pay the expenses of the present cruise around the world of the United States fleet, according to Charles E. Beals of the American Peace Society of Boston, who is in Chicago. Mr. Beals declares many of the smaller nations visited have an attack of "fleeteritis" and are clamoring for more ships to keep up their dignity. He deprecates this condition and suggests that money could be spent to better advantage in many other lines.

## KENTUCKY MOB LYNCH SLAYER OF 13 YEAR OLD GIRL

### Elmer Hill Taken From Jail and Hung to Tree

### AFTER THIRD ATTEMPT

### Twice Before Mobs Were Formed to Lynch Hill But Both Times Were Stopped

### PRAYS BEFORE EXECUTED

### After an Assault Last Week Upon His Cousin, Mary Womack, Elmer Hill Kills Her—Mob Work Quietly and Without Interference.

### LEXINGTON, Dec. 17.—Elmer Hill, charged with the murder of Mamie Womack, a 13-year-old girl in Adair county, was dragged from the jail at Monticello, Wayne county last night, carried four miles to Greasy Creek, and there hanged to a tree. His body was discovered there this morning by passersby, who had heard nothing of the mob's action last night.

The mob worked quietly, coming from the direction of Adair and Russell counties. They broke down the jail doors, dragged Hill out, he protested his innocence, placed him on a horse and took him to Greasy Creek, where he was given a chance to pray before being hanged.

No shots were fired and no mutilation of the body offered. The mob then quietly dispersed. The body was cut down this morning.

After an assault, Hill killed his cousin, 13-year-old Mary Womack, in Adair county last week. Twice mobs formed to lynch Hill but were prevented. Last night no warning had been received and the mob worked without real interference.

### VESSELS LOST, 1094.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—There were 1094 vessel disasters in the United States in the last fiscal year, resulting in a property loss of \$1,863,790 and the loss of 22 lives, according to the annual report of Gen. Superintendent Kimball of the Life Saving Service. Because of the assistance of the life savers, it is pointed out that of \$163,000,000 worth of property at stake more than \$11,000,000 worth was saved.

## JAMES FINCH TO BE PLACED ON TRIAL

### CASE COMES UP TODAY FOR THE MURDER OF RALPH FISHER, THE ATTORNEY

### CAMERO! THE PROSECUTOR

### The Defense Will be in Charge of C. H. Piggott, Finch's Partner, Assisted by C. F. Lord and Mr. Holcomb.

PORTLAND, Dec. 17.—James A. Finch, the slayer of Ralph Fisher, prosecutor of the State Bar Association, will be placed on trial on a charge of murder tomorrow morning in the state circuit court. District Attorney George J. Cameron will direct the prosecution and will be assisted by Deputy District Attorney J. J. Fitzgerald and former Deputy District Attorney A. C. Spencer. The defense will be in charge of C. H. Piggott, Finch's partner, assisted by C. F. Lord and Mr. Holcomb.

### MILLERS IN SESSION.

CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—At a meeting of the executive board of the Millers' National Association held here yesterday methods were discussed relative to the protection of the millers of the country against the action of the Department of Agriculture in condemning the process of bleaching flour.

## BOURNE AMENDS OREGON CUSTOM MEASURE

### RECALLS BILL AND SUBMITS AMENDMENT IN ASTORIA DISTRICT MATTER.

### FULTON HOT AFTER ELKINS

### Senator Makes an Effort to Force Chairman Elkins of Interstate to Bring in Reports on Freight Rate Bill.

### WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Senator Fulton is making an effort to force Chairman Elkins of the interstate commerce committee, to bring in a report on the bill suspending an increase in railroad freight rates pending an investigation by the Interstate Commerce Commission. On the floor today Senator Fulton reminded Mr. Elkins of his promise to bring in a report prior to adjournment of the holidays, adding with evident sarcasm that he knew Elkins was laboring hard to get up a report for presentation Saturday. Senator Elkins made no response, and it is expected he will not report the bill.

Senator Bourne introduced a bill increasing the salaries of the president and vice-president to \$100,000 and \$50,000, respectively, per annum. He says that the present salaries are entirely inadequate as compensation for the duties performed.

Senator Bourne also recalled the bill re-establishing the Oregon customs districts and submitted an amendment making the Astoria district comprise the territory beginning at the summit of the Coast Mountains at the 45th degree north latitude, thence west to the Pacific Ocean, thence north to the north bank of the Columbia river, thence west to the Coast Mountains, and south to the place of beginning. As amended, he secured the passage of the bill, which fixes the boundaries and salaries of the collector at Portland to receive \$6000 and appraisers \$3000.

## HAINS BROS. WENT PREPARED TO KILL

### Testimony of Fred Storm Indicates That Defendants Hunted Victim up With Intent to Kill

### FLUSHING, N. Y., Dec. 17.—F.

A. Storm, a real estate dealer, testified today in the Thornton Hains trial, that the defendant had inquired as to the whereabouts of Annis shortly before the latter called up to the dock where he was shot. "Thornton Hains stopped talking about real estate and asked me where Annis was," said the witness. "I pointed out Annis' boat, then sailing toward the float."

The shooting of Annis then followed. It is upon this statement of Storm that the prosecution hinges its con-

tention that Hains' brother hunted up Annis for the purpose of killing him and that the real estate inquiry was a blind. Other important testimony was given by Charles Birchfield, a friend of Annis, who declared that Thornton drove him back with a drawn revolver when he sought to stop the shooting. Thornton drove Mrs. Annis from the float with a revolver, according to Birchfield. Mrs. Annis, the widow of the slain man, testified to establish the death of her husband. She will take the stand again later.