



## KIDNAPPED WILLE WHITLA SAFELY RECOVERED

### Agonized Father Meets Agent of Kidnappers and Arranges Terms--Boy Placed on a Street Car and Sent to Prominent Hotel Where Father Awaits Him

### Boy Was Disguised so That Father Would Hardly Have Known Him--Reception of Boy at the Hotel Was Highly Dramatic and Almost Resulted in a Panic

CLEVELAND, March 22.—Little Willie Whitla who has caused the police of the entire country an endless worry since he was kidnapped at Sharon, Pa., Thursday, was returned to his father at Holenden Hotel here this evening in compliance with an agreement entered into with the agent of the kidnapers. The boy was placed on a street car in the outskirts of the city and started to the hotel shortly after 8 o'clock. The boy wandered about the hotel lobby unannounced for several minutes asking the bell boys for his father before the latter knew his son was in the big foyer. The moment the anxious parent heard that a strange boy was in the hotel he rushed across the lobby and grasped him in his arms and smothered him with kisses. An attempt had been made to disguise the lad, he wore a pair of smoked glasses and large black yarn cap and the father said it would have been difficult to recognize the boy in such a garb had he passed him on the street. Willie is in perfect health. He says he has been well treated and ever since his capture has been constantly indoors. He believes he was taken from Sharon to Warren and thence to Newcastle. He thinks he was taken to Ashtabula Saturday night at the time his father was about to receive him in Flat Iron Park. Whitla, senior, refuses to state whether he paid a ransom or not. He said he received a letter today from the kidnapers at his home in Sharon saying if he called at a confectionery in the east end of Cleveland he would be told how to secure his boy, unharmed and "well fed."

Shortly after noon he left Sharon for Cleveland. He was unaccompanied. His immediate family and private detectives were apprised of the trip but he insisted on making the trip alone. Whitla was certain if he spoiled the plans of his son's capturers tonight he would never see him alive again. His experience at

Ashtabula served him as a warning. About 2 o'clock this afternoon he went to the candy store carrying with him \$10,000, expecting that it would be demanded of him there. He was met by a woman who detailed the terms of the kidnapers to which Whitla agreed. The detectives in his employ says he had the money but on this point the father declined to commit himself. A few moments later he returned to the hotel and awaited developments. An agent of the kidnapers promised the boy would be started for the hotel shortly after nightfall. As the hour approached for the appearance of the child, Whitla became nervous. He disregarded the advice of the detectives who told him to keep out of sight of the newspaper men and curious people who had learned that he was in the city. Emerging from his room, he walked up and down the hall on the second floor with hands clasped across his breast. Then unable to stand the suspense any longer he went into the lobby and seated himself. A few newspapermen walked over to him to talk to him but he refused to converse.

"In heaven's name, men, do not say a word to me, I am on the verge of nervous prostration."

For more than an hour Whitla waited in the lobby smoking cigars and muttering to himself. When he entered, Willie did not see his father or sister in the lobby. Walking over to the clerk he asked: "Oh, have you seen my papa?"

"Who is he, boy?"

"Oh, I'm Mr. Whitla's Willie."

The crowd nearest the boy who heard the words rushed in around him. The lad was shoved up against the hotel counter and the scene closely resembled a panic. Across the lobby, the father heard the piping voice of his son. Frantic with joy he rushed through the office corridor and in a moment was fighting his way through the spectators. Plung-

#### NEW YORK, NOT PORTLAND

NEW YORK, March 22.—An inspector of gas metres is dead at Ridgewood heights, Long Island, killed by gas last night, in company with a woman. The victim was John Wagner, who was found dead in a hotel room with a woman supposed to be Mrs. Annie Miller, who was separated from her husband. A gas jet in the room was turned on and the gas was escaping into the room when the bodies were found.

#### \$100,000 TO PROSECUTE WORK.

NEW YORK, March 22.—Police Commissioner Bingham has asked for \$100,000 to be spent in continuing the work upon which Lieutenant Petrosini was engaged when he was murdered in Italy.

#### ROOSEVELT READY TO START FOR AFRICA

#### STEAMER HAMBURG SAILS THIS MORNING WITH WIVES OF ENTIRE COUNTRY.

OYSTER BAY, March 22.—Closing a strenuous day that was taken up chiefly with final arrangements for his African expedition ex-President Roosevelt spent the hours of the evening in the heart of his family all in readiness for the long journey on which he is to set out tomorrow. The baggage was put aboard the steamer today and after inspecting the quarters reserved for him on the vessel, Roosevelt returned to Oyster Bay with his wife and children. While Roosevelt is grateful for the demonstration that has been planned for him as the Hamburg sails, he again expressed the hope that the leaving-taking will be regarded as strictly that of a private citizen.

#### HARRIMAN SECURES QUARTERS ON RANCH

#### WILL HOLD A MEETING WITH ALL SOUTHERN PACIFIC LEUTENANTS SOON.

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., March 22.—E. H. Harriman has wired J. K. Harrington of the Texas Pacific Improvement Company that he will be in Santa Barbara tomorrow and will select a site on the company's hop ranch for his winter residence. Harriman and all his Southern Pacific lieutenants will hold a week's conference at the local hotel and it is authoritatively stated he will not go to San Francisco as previously announced.

## PITTSBURG GRAFTERS FACE INDICTMENTS

### Judge Authorizes District Attorney to Indict Millionaires, Bankers, Councilmen, Saloonkeepers

PITTSBURG, Pa., March 22.—The councilmanic graft was given a sensational turn today when Judge Davis authorized the district attorney to prepare an indictment against the following: Dallas C. Byers, millionaire iron manufacturer; F. A. Griffin, vice president of the Columbia National Bank; Henry Bolger, Water-

## APPOINTED NEW COMMITTEES

All Vacancies on Standing Committees are Filled Confirming Action of Caucuses.

#### NUMBER OF CHARGES MADE

Republican Senators Are Not Entirely Pleased With Committee Assignments and State a Number of South Central States Have Been Neglected

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 22.—The organization of the Senate committees was the chief business of that body today. Many bills were introduced and referred to the committees notwithstanding it was understood that at the present special session no bills would be introduced beyond the tariff and census bills.

The Senate today filled all vacancies on its standing committees and created two more full committees, confirming the action taken by the Republican and Democratic caucuses earlier in the day. Of the new committees one is entitled "On Public Expenditures." The members are Hale, Aldrich, Warren, Perkins, Penrose, Dooliver, Clapp, Nelson, Gamble, Carter, Bourne, Cummins, Burton, Root, McLarin, Newlands, Owen, Fletcher and Hughes; the other is a committee "On Conservation of Natural Resources," and is composed of the following: Dixon, Clark of Wyoming, Beveridge, Dooliver, Dillingham, Heyburn, Dick, Briggs, Guggenheim, Jones, Newlands, Overman, Davis, Bankhead, and Smith of South Carolina. The assignments of Western Senators to the committees include: Commerce Bourne; judiciary, Fife, Borah; inter-oceanic canals, Flint. The following chairmanships go to Western Senators: Education and labor, Borah; industrial exhibitions, Jones; inter-oceanic canals, Flint; naval affairs, Perkins. Several changes were made in chairmanships of small select committees which are headed by Democratic Senators. Aldrich stated he would later submit a resolution fixing the powers and duties of the new committee on public expenditures.

DON'T LIKE IT. WASHINGTON, D. C., March 22.—Much dissatisfaction was evinced today in the Republican caucus over committee assignments. Senator Scott particularly objected to the manner in which the vacancies of the finance committee were filled. His complaint was that the South Central States were neglected and suggested that the course of Republican leaders in the Senate might drive these states into the Democratic column.

## TARIFF BILL UP IN HOUSE

Author of Bill Speaks for Four Hours on the Merits of His Bill

#### INCREASE COST OF LIVING

So Says Minority Report, Which Enters a Severe Arraignment of Revision Which Bill Proposes--Says it Increases Instead of Lowers.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 22.—The tariff bill held full sway in the House today. The measure was promptly put before that body immediately after convening. Congressman Payne, of New York, chairman of the ways and means committee, spoke for four hours and ten minutes explaining the bill. Then, somewhat fatigued, he suspended action until tomorrow. He was subjected to a cross-fire of questions. Payne, in speaking of the maximum and minimum features of the bill, predicted that France, Germany and other European countries would hasten so as to equalize their duties on American products that they would derive benefit of the minimum rates offered.

What the Minority Says. The Payne tariff bill will increase the cost of living; that it is crude, indefinite, sectional and prohibitive and that it is an open challenge to trade war with every other nation, are some of the criticisms of that measure made by the Democratic members of the ways and means committee in a minority report submitted to the House by Minority Leader Clark today. The report is a severe arraignment of the revision which the Payne bill proposes.

Counterprevaling duty on provisions for coffee and petroleum maximum and minimum features, Cuban reciprocity clause, woolen, glass, agriculture and sugar schedules are bitterly attacked. Declaring that the tariff is a tax paid by the consumer and the only legitimate function of tariff is to revise a revenue to supply the needs of the government. The minority members insist that instead of increase of taxes or new issue of bonds, a correct remedy for the growing deficiency in revenues is the reduction of expenses of the government. The report declares that the tariff scheme set forth in the Payne schedule enables foreign countries to force us to raise rates of the Payne schedules 20 per cent, which makes the average much higher than the Dingley law. The report declares in favor of the maximum and minimum tariff which enables our government to negotiate the tariff ar-

angement by making concessions, to other governments by reducing the rates of our statute in return for valuable considerations.

"The Standard Oil," the report continues, "is handsomely cared for in the Payne bill as in the Dingley bill and by reason of the provision in Paragraph 637 what is popular known as a joker continues to be protected by a tariff duty of 99 per cent which enables it to dominate and exploit American markets and levy tribute upon the public."

#### EX CONGRESSMAN DEAD

SANTA MONICA, Cal., March 22.—Colonel Guilford Wiley Wells, former representative in Congress from the second Mississippi district and consul general at Shanghai under President Hayes, died at his residence here last night.

## ROUGH RIDER GOVERNOR WIRES RESIGNATION

#### GOVERNOR OF NEW MEXICO NOT SATISFIED WITH REFUSAL OF SECRETARY.

SANTA FE, N. M., March 22.—Governor Curry tonight telegraphed his resignation as Governor of New Mexico to President Taft. Governor Curry states that although he has contemplated taking this action for several months, the immediate cause is the refusal of Secretary Ballinger to permit him to come to Washington to talk with President Taft on a matter of great importance to New Mexico.

## ANTI-PLEDGE BILL IS VETOED BY HAY

#### ENCOURAGES DISHONESTY RATHER THAN DO ANY REAL GOOD HE SAYS.

OLYMPIA, March 22.—The anti-pledge bill which attempted to disqualify for any office of legislative character candidates who sign the pledge to support any particular measure and which made it a misdemeanor to circulate such pledges was vetoed today by Governor Hay. The Governor declares it "would encourage insincerity and perhaps dishonesty, rather than accomplish any real good." The Governor today approved of the new criminal code bill. It prohibits among other things tipping servants in public resorts; bucket-shops and stock exchange gambling; screen doors and windows in saloons; and rectifying liquor.

## WANTS OREGON'S GUNS FOR CAPITAL

### Governor Makes Request of Secretary of Navy That Battleship's Guns be Given State

SALEM, Or., March 22.—Governor Benson, late Saturday evening, wired Secretary of the Navy George von L. Meyer, at Washington, D. C., requesting that two of the 13-inch guns which were taken from the battleship Oregon as a result of her re-equipment with a battlement of more mod-

ern and powerful guns, be presented to the state whose name the celebrated fighting ship bears to be mounted on the capitol grounds and held in remembrance of the man-of-war and the part she has taken in making for the United States navy the enviable record and reputation which it bears among the nations outside.

#### HAS \$1. TO START WITH

CHEYENNE, Wyo., March 22.—A will made shortly before death by Mrs. Mary E. Ryan, who, together with her daughter, Mrs. Nellie Behan, was recently shot and killed by her husband, John (Posey) Ryan, and just found makes considerable change in the disposition of her \$15,000 estate and may leave Ryan without means to conduct his defense, on the charge of murder. According to the instrument Ryan gets only \$1 and the remainder of the estate is bequeathed to her two sons, Eugene Clouser of Thermopolis, Wyo., and Franklin Clouser of Guernsey, Wyo., and her daughter, Mrs. Behan, whose portion will now go to her husband.

#### BURGLARIONS COMBINE

CHICAGO, March 22.—Proof of a working agreement between gangs of burglars has been discovered by the police. After raiding one house and making five arrests, officers went to another district and captured another group. Property stolen by the first gang was found in the possession of the second and later developments showed that an agreement existed between the crooks whereby the territory of each other was respected.

## FEAR BALLOON IS DESTROYED

### Six Men Sail Away in Air Ship and Strike a Fierce Storm

#### GONE MORE THAN 50 HOURS

Little Short of a Miracle Save the Men From Death by Exposure and Starvation—Experienced Searching Parties Have Started Out.

LOS ANGELES, March 22.—For more than 50 hours now, friends of the six men who ascended from Tournament Park in Pasadena Saturday in the big racing balloon "America," have been without a word of

them or the slightest knowledge of the fate that has overtaken the intrepid aviators. As far as the information here goes no human being has caught sight of the huge gas bag since it rose above the park enclosure and carried by a stiff northerly wind sailed into the low hanging clouds and disappeared from the view of the gathered throngs. Within a few hours after the flight began, a terrific storm broke which lasted all Saturday night and Sunday and Sunday night, and today the snow has continued to fall heavily in the mountains with torrents of rain in the lowlands. There are three distinct ranges of mountains between here and the Mohave desert and if the balloon is able to pass these ranges there is a possibility that the occupants of the basket may be able to reach safety. If the balloon is not able to cross the mountain ranges, and if it carried no more ballast than enabled it to rise 6000 feet, little short of a miracle can save the men from death by exposure and starvation. Five or six searching parties have started out, some of them guided by the most experienced mountaineers of the district.

Subscribe to the Morning Astorian, 6 cents per month.