

GIGANTIC SHRINKAGE

Kansas War Against the Standard Oil Causes \$31,000,000 Loss.

ILLINOIS LEGISLATURE JOINS WAR ON TRUST

Federal Grand Jury Called at Chicago at Instance of Government to Indict Members of Beef Trust.

Chicago, Feb. 21.—Steps taken against the Standard Oil by congress, and the war waged against it in Kansas, Texas and elsewhere, have already caused a \$31,000,000 shrinkage in oil stock, according to the leading brokers of La Salle street. In substantiation of the statement local brokers cite the decline of the New York market for the last few days. Oil stock broke yesterday and today 16 points, selling down to \$490 per share. One week ago today oil was selling at \$544 a share. During the interval a quarterly dividend of \$15 came off the stock, allowing for a deduction, a net decline within a week of \$54.

There is Standard Oil stock of \$100,000,000 outstanding, a shrinkage of 31 points makes a reduction in the market value of \$31,000,000.

Resolutions were introduced in the legislature at Springfield today expressing sympathy with Kansas in her fight against the Standard Oil company and providing for a committee for the investigation of the Standard's pipe line in Illinois with a view to declaring it a common carrier. Legislators are apparently eager to assist Kansas in her struggle with the oil monopoly and an immediate hearing is demanded in the resolutions.

Upon orders from Washington a special federal grand jury, venire was ordered today and 10 deputy United States marshals sort out with subpoenas summoning more than 35 members of the so-called beef trust. When the jury is sworn, these men will be taken before it and an attempt made to indict persons restrained by Judge Grosscup's decision in the beef trust case, which was recently sustained by the supreme court.

District Attorney Sol. Pethes, who has been quietly mapping out the campaign for months, will direct the fight for the government. More than a hundred and eighty witnesses have been subpoenaed and these will testify concerning the operations of the packers.

It is believed the investigation of the grand jury will occupy several weeks and be the most exhaustive ever conducted. Among the persons all parties summoned is practically every man prominently identified with the packing house business in Chicago.

BROADEN INQUIRY.

Whole Country Aroused Against Trust and Investigation to Be Extended.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 21.—The Kansas delegation has requested the president to broaden the scope of the Standard Oil inquiry and to include the operations of the Standard Oil company in the Texas fields. Requests are also made to the same men by members of the Texas delegation and the Texas legislature has wired a request for an inquiry into the methods of the trust in the Beaumont oil fields.

Members of congress are in receipt of thousands of telegrams from all parts of the country protesting against the renewal of the lease of the Standard Oil company to Indian lands and requesting sweeping investigations.

From Oklahoma come news that the territory will probably build a refinery, a bill to that effect having been introduced into the territorial legislature. Wisconsin and Missouri have also taken up the fight, and measures will be introduced in both legislatures to make pipe lines common carriers and to investigate the methods of the corporation.

FOUND WATER TOO COLD.

Lewistown, Idaho, Feb. 21.—In an attempt to evade the officers yesterday, Elmer Soper attempted to swim across the Snake river, but found the water too cold and gave himself up. He was arrested on a charge of participating in a fight Sunday night.

JUDGES FOR THE NEW JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

These are the appointments announced today by Governor Chamberlain.

In making these selections the governor is carrying out his long-cherished policy of establishing a non-partisan judiciary. Mr. White and Mr. Crawford are Democrats and Mr. Harris is a Republican.

CHALLENGE TO DEBATE

Lawson Defies Standard Oil Attorney to Meet Him in Faneuil Hall.

WOULD TALK ON CRIMES COMMITTED BY SYSTEM

Journalists' Home to Reap Benefit of Argument—Dennis Donohue is Arrested for Criminal Libel.

Boston, Feb. 21.—An open letter to James M. Beck, ex-assistant attorney general of the United States, now counsel and chief orator for the Standard Oil company and the "system," Mr. Beck: Last February, when you came to Boston as counsel for Henry H. Rogers and on the eve of the gas trial in the Massachusetts supreme court, where Mr. Rogers and myself were to testify, you tried to have me "match up" my testimony. I refused. Shortly after "Frenzied Finance" began, and you and James H. Eckels, ex-comptroller of the currency of the United States, now representative of the "system" in the west, were selected to sling mud at me at public dinners and banquets, he in the west and you in the east. You have both been industriously at it wherever you knew it was safe, that is, wherever you were sure I could not answer you, and now tonight at the dinner of the Boston Life Underwriters' association here in my own city, you are to again unlimber your mud guns.

The International League of Press Clubs is endeavoring to raise the requisite \$50,000 fund for the building and equipping of a home for journalists. J. P. Morgan has agreed to furnish the last \$5,000 provided the fund is raised before June 30. I am asked to furnish \$5,000. It is, as you know, a most worthy cause. You and your bosses of the "Standard Oil" Amalgamated, City Bank—"Big Three" insurance crowd, have never yet in your attacks upon the public, or individual members of the public, been known to come out in the open, but have always made your cowardly attacks when you were sure it was safe.

Therefore I make you the following offer: If you, the recognized mouthpiece of the "Standard Oil," its leading orator, a man so thoroughly versed in public declamation as to stand in the front ranks of the great public speakers of this country, will meet me in Faneuil hall, the cradle of American liberty and free speech, meet me, the people one honest chance to learn, the man in public addresses where I have had no opportunity to answer. In your last address at Philadelphia you called me a "frenzied faker." "Wild run-amuck 'Standard Oil' you surely will not prove yourself so cowardly as to do this and not accept my proposition.

I will await your answer in the report which I will read tomorrow of what you say in the house of your friends, the insurance people.

THOMAS W. LAWSON.

WHAT LAWSON SAID.

This is Mr. Lawson's article in the March number of Everybody's Magazine which has stirred up Eckels and Beck. During the Cleveland administration there developed a "financial phenomenon," James H. Eckels, comptroller of the currency. It did not take long for the astute Rogers-Morgan-McCall clique to see that this young man's knowledge of finance in connection with his governmental position might prove a dangerous obstacle to their machine if he were not captured. It was not long before he was captured. I need not enter into details of that extraordinary affair here, for it is one of the sore spots in recent American history. Briefly, the administration at Washington attempted to issue \$100,000,000 government bonds and deliver them in a snap sale to the "System." The New York World began a crusade against the transaction, and was so successful that the administration was compelled to offer the issue to the public through competitive bids. The result—the bonds fetched many more millions for the government than if the deal had been allowed to slip along the ways the "System" had arranged for it.

I remember well the scene at the opening of the bids. It was in the United States treasury at Washington.

(Continued on Page Two.)

HE WOODED IN HASTE, SHE SUED AT LEISURE

(Journal Special Service.) New York, Feb. 21.—Mrs. Flora Wilder of Philadelphia, says her late husband was a wealthy cousin of Marshall P. Wilder, the humorist, is going to sue Charles Henry Jerome, who declares he told her he was a cousin of District Attorney Jerome, for breach of promise of marriage. Mrs. Wilder conducts an apartment house in Philadelphia.

Mrs. Wilder says she has a trunk full of passionate letters from Jerome. His wooing was a remarkable proceeding. One half hour after he became acquainted with her at the Hoffman house he proposed marriage. She was in no haste, however, and induced him to postpone the wedding. Now he has failed, she says, to keep his promise to marry her.

PRINCE LOUIS OF BATTENBERG, NEPHEW OF EDWARD VII OF ENGLAND, COMMANDING A SQUADRON OF THE FASTEST BRITISH CRUISERS WHICH WILL VISIT THE UNITED STATES. THE FLAGSHIP DRAGON IS ALSO SHOWN.



Prince Louis of Battenberg, Nephew of Edward VII of England, Commanding a Squadron of the Fastest British Cruisers Which Will Visit the United States. The Flagship Drake Is Also Shown.

THUG'S VICTIM IS MAN OF WEALTH

Abraham Bachtold, Almost Killed Saturday Night, Worth Half Million Dollars.

DETECTIVE ON TRAIL OF HIS ASSAILANT

Aged Peddler Known as Crazy Charley Owns Ranches, Vineyards and Houses.

Aided by Detectives Snow, Kerrigan and Hartman, Police Sergeant Sliver is leaving no stone unturned in the effort to apprehend the thugs who brutally assaulted and robbed Abraham Bachtold at Oatman station, on the Woodstock car line, Saturday night and left him for dead. A valuable clue to their identity is said to have been obtained and a good chance exists that the perpetrators of the deed will be brought to justice.

To the astonishment of the police, their investigation has incidentally brought out the fact that Bachtold, or "Crazy Charley," as he is known to his neighbors, is worth probably half a million dollars. This was discovered through papers found at the man's cabin. That the robbers were aware of his wealth is shown by their taking a number of papers of value with them after laying their victim insensible at their feet.

Bachtold owns a large farm in Florida, a large fruit ranch in California, a valuable timber claim in this state and several parcels of realty at Mt. Tabor. He is believed to have considerable money buried in the vicinity of his hut, and is reported to have always carried from \$100 to \$500 in his pockets. Despite his wealth, he lives in squalor and wears clothing of the cheapest kind, old and ragged with hard service.

The police have learned that Bachtold left his horse and wagon at the standard stable, proceeded from there to a Japanese restaurant and then to a Japanese barber shop, where he was shaved. He visited no saloons; he informed the detectives that he never drinks.

It has also been learned that Bachtold is a member of the common arguments made in its behalf was that prohibi-



Prince Louis of Battenberg, Nephew of Edward VII of England, Commanding a Squadron of the Fastest British Cruisers Which Will Visit the United States. The Flagship Drake Is Also Shown.

WILL EVEN THAT SAVE IT?

It is becoming increasingly evident that nothing but red ink will save the Telegram from landing in the scrap pile at the foot of the journalistic hill. Even red ink may not save it, but without the gory foretop it surely hasn't the shadow of a show. This may be accepted as a straight and well meant tip.

MAY CAST NO VOTE FOR LOCAL OPTION

Where there will be no other election held this year, temperance workers will not recommend a local option vote.

At a meeting of the standing committee of the Anti-Saloon League and the State Prohibition Alliance of Oregon, held last evening in the rooms of the Young Men's Christian association, this decision was reached. The action of the committee does not bind absolutely all precincts, cities and counties of the state, as the initiative can be taken and the work carried out independently, but the fact that the state organizations advocate this course will no doubt prove effective in preventing local option elections where no vote is taken on other matters.

The joint committee of the two active temperance organizations has been discussing this action for some time. A majority sentiment seemed to have been against incurring extraordinary expenses in the cause. The opinion of prominent workers all over the state has been sought, with the hope of taking such course as would meet with general approval and strengthen the cause. These all seemed to think it not best to hold independent elections for local option, and such recommendation was made last evening. The vote will be communicated in all precincts, city and county organizations immediately.

When the Jayne bill was up at Salem, one of the common arguments made in its behalf was that prohibi-

NEED NOT SELL LAND

Southern Oregon Company Is Not Compelled to Transfer Acreage

JUDGE BELLINGER'S IMPORTANT DECISION

Sustains Demurrer to Suit to Compel Corporation to Dispose of Acreage, and Deals Counties Blow.

Settlers of Coos and Douglas counties cannot compel the Southern Oregon company to sell any or all of its 100,000 acres of roan-grant land at the maximum figure of \$2.50 an acre. Judge C. B. Bellinger of the federal court so decided this morning. A demurrer to the sufficiency of the complaint filed in the suit of L. K. Nicholls vs. the Southern Oregon company was the form in which the case reached an early climax. Nicholls had brought a case, on behalf of a large number of settlers, demanding that the company sell him 160 acres at \$2.50 an acre, according to the provisions of the original grant for road construction. The court held that Nicholls was not a beneficiary in the original act, and therefore was not a proper party to a suit seeking to establish that the provisions of the grant had not been fulfilled. In addition the court decided that the transfer of this land with the apparent sanction of the granting power, and the lapse of time since the lands were made, precluded recovery at this time and in the manner sought by the plaintiff.

Property estimated to be worth more than \$1,000,000 is involved. If the Southern Oregon company, in which Elmer Smith is the principal owner, had to sell for \$2.50 an acre, the tract would be worth \$250,000, but if the holder company is permitted to sell at a figure which the timber resources would reasonably bring at this date, it is said that the price will range from \$10 to \$40 an acre for the same tract.

Blow to Coos County. The decision will be a heavy blow to Coos county, it is said, where the big company has a vast area sealed up, and will not develop it or sell to others who would do so.

Judge Bellinger's decision follows: "By an act of congress approved March 3, 1869, there was granted to the state of Oregon land to aid in the construction of a military wagon road from Roseburg in this state to the navigable waters of Coos Bay. The grant contained this provision: 'Provided, further, that the grant of land herein made shall be upon the condition that the lands shall be sold to any person only in quantities not greater than a quarter of a section and at a price not to exceed \$2.50 an acre.'"

"October 22, 1870, the state of Oregon, by act of legislature, granted the land in question to the Coos Bay Wagon Road company, and this company built the road, in accordance with the provisions hereinafter, and on June 18, 1874, congress passed an act to authorize the issuance of patents for lands granted the state of Oregon in certain cases." In terms as follows:

"Whereas, certain lands have heretofore by act of congress, been granted to the state of Oregon to aid in construction of certain military wagon roads in said state, and there exists no law providing for the issuing of formal patents for said lands; therefore, be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America, in congress assembled, that in the construction of which said lands were granted, are shown by the certificate of the governor of the state of Oregon, as in said act provided, patents for said lands shall issue in due form to the state of Oregon as fast as the same shall, under said grants, be selected and certified.

"Oregon shall by public act have transferred its interests in said lands to any corporation or corporations, in which case the patents shall issue from the general land office of such corporation or corporations upon their payment of the necessary expenses thereof; provided, that this shall not be construed to relieve any land grant already expired, nor to create new rights of any kind except to provide for issuing patents for lands to which the state is already entitled."

Patents Issued. "In pursuance of this act, patents were issued to the Coos Bay Wagon Road company for the granted lands. The defendant company has succeeded in title to 30,000 acres in one body of the lands so patented, through mesne conveyances to the Southern Oregon Improvement company, and from them through sale by master in chancery, and it has succeeded through mesne conveyances to the remainder of such lands.

"It is contended for the plaintiff that the grant in question is in effect an offer to sell the general lands to aid in building the road mentioned, in quantities of not more than a quarter of a section to any one person, at \$2.50 an acre, and that the title acquired by the state was upon this trust, and that the conveyance by the state of these lands in bulk was in violation of the trust which is placed upon such lands in the hands of the defendant company, and that this trust will continue to exist until it is executed in accordance with the terms of the granting act, by the sale of the grant lands in quantities to single purchasers."

City Attorney L. A. McNary has been requested by Mayor George H. Williams to bring action in the circuit court to enjoin County Clerk Fields from proceeding with the new registration of voters for the spring election. Mr. McNary said that he would file the petition within three days. It is expected that the judges who will be asked to sit on the case, will render their decision within two weeks. Mayor Williams says an election under the direct primary law will cost \$5,000.

(Continued on Page Two.)

HERE'S THE LIE DIRECT

Mr. Fiegel Says Hunt Was in Saloon After One o'clock.

CHIEF KNOWS SALOONS ARE BREAKING THE LAWS

In Letter to General Beebe Councilman Asserts It is Common Knowledge That Police Are Aware of Violations.

"Chief of Police Hunt was in the Alcazar saloon, in the north end, some time ago, after 1 o'clock in the morning," said Councilman A. F. Fiegel today. "He went there with one of his officers to see if the place was open. He found it open, but he made no effort to arrest the proprietor or to close up the place. 'More than that,' continued he: 'Chief Hunt knows other saloons are violating the law. Nearly all the smaller places are closed after 1 o'clock, but many of the larger saloons are running later. Barkeepers go to work at 12 o'clock, men crowd the saloons, and women do box-rustling after 1 o'clock. Chief Hunt has ordered his patrolmen to keep away from these places.'"

"Of course, the front doors of the saloons are closed after 1 o'clock in the morning, but anybody who desires can secure admittance. It is absurd for him to make the statement that no saloons are conducted contrary to law. Councilman Gen. Charles F. Beebe has interested himself in the accusations against Chief Hunt made by Mr. Fiegel in the council meeting last Wednesday. He feels that if conditions were such as described they would reflect seriously on the administration of the police department. He has asked Mr. Fiegel for information regarding the statements.

Mr. Fiegel is not disposed to enlighten General Beebe. From the correspondence which has passed between them it is apparent that he has but little faith in the police commissioner's desire to change the existing order of things. General Beebe's letter, dated February 16, follows:

"My dear sir: I note in the report of the meeting of the city council yesterday afternoon that you were represented as saying that you were reliably informed that the chief of police knows that saloons are open after hours, and that as a matter of fact you know that his men go into saloons after hours, and that you also know that the chief of police himself has been in saloons after hours.

"As these conditions, if they exist, would reflect seriously upon the administration of the police department, I am very anxious to be informed of the facts in this connection, and I will feel under no obligation to you if you will kindly advise me fully with reference to the matter, giving all details as specifically and exactly as may be possible, in order to afford me an opportunity to investigate, and have the necessary measures instituted to correct these conditions, should they exist as alleged. Very respectfully,

"CHARLES F. BEEBE."

Councilman Fiegel replied as follows: February 20:

"My dear general: I have your letter of the 16th, received on my return to the city Friday afternoon. In regard to my statement in the council that I was informed that the chief of police knows that saloons are open after hours, I beg leave to advise you that I am so informed, and have no doubt that I could prove it to any impartial board, or to any court, that we have such knowledge, and that the saloons remain open with his consent.

"My statement that he and his men had been in the saloons in this city after 1 o'clock a. m. and before 5 o'clock a. m. was not for the purpose of criticizing them for having been there, but to show that the saloons were open during the prohibited time, and that it was a matter of common knowledge and common consent on the part of the police department.

"I do not believe it possible to bring information before the police committee of the mayor which would change the existing order of things in regard to the saloons remaining open after 1 o'clock a. m. and if I had not thought so I would have preferred charges, and substantiated them by proofs long ere this. Yours very truly,

"A. F. FIEGEL."

SENATE ABANDONS ALL RAILROAD LEGISLATION

(Journal Special Service.) Washington, Feb. 21.—The death knell of railroad rate legislation in the senate for this session was sounded today when Senator Elkins, chairman of the committee on interstate commerce, on the floor of the senate, pronounced the measure dead.

It was stated that all bills introduced in such legislation will be considered dead and it is believed that the committee on interstate commerce will report no further legislation in this line.