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The Weather—Fair tonight and  
Thursday; northwesterly winds.

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PORTLAND, OREGON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 19, 1908.—FOURTEEN PAGES.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

OF TRADE AND NEWS  
STANDS, FIVE CENTS

JOURNAL CIRCULATION  
YESTERDAY WAS  
29,300

# OFFER 2,000 MEN EMPLOYMENT AT \$5 PER DAY

## ALASKA MINE OWNERS HERE TO SECURE HELP

### Portland Office Besieged When Bulletin Is Posted. Tanana Representatives Charter Three Boats to Carry Men to Gold Fields. Places for All Idle Men Who Want Work.

A sensation in the labor world of the Pacific northwest has been sprung by the Tanana Mine Owners' association, Alaska, which offers to guarantee 2,000 men employment at \$5 per day, with board and lodging, from April 10, to the close of the season. The labor office of C. H. Hansen, on North Second street, was jammed and a crowd of 200 men filled the street in front of the place this morning within a few minutes after the announcement was broadcast.

The Tanana mine owners have sent a representative, Samuel Rudensky, to Portland to carry on a campaign for men, and he has commissioned the Hansen agency to employ them. Mr. Rudensky said:

**Three Vessels Chartered.**  
"We have chartered three vessels that are to leave Seattle for Valdez within the next 20 days, and it is our intention to carry the capacity of each if we can get the men. We want all the men we can get for Fairbanks, Alaska. We will charter for date of February 24 to take the full capacity of the steamship Santa Clara, 150 men, for Valdez. There will be no more special shipments until leaving March 1, and again for a ship leaving March 10, for Alaska. There will be no more special shipments until June, when we will take a large number."

"We are contracting only for pick and shovel men and are guaranteeing work from April 10 to \$5 per day of 10 hours, with board and lodging. The men will

be taken to Valdez and from there we have arranged to take them in over the trail, 375 miles, to Fairbanks.

"There will be pack horses and teams, so that the 'mushers' will be made comfortable, and 50 pounds of baggage for each man will be carried free. The company will provide shelter on the trail and three meals a day.

**Cost of Travel at Minimum.**  
"This arrangement is made so that the men can go in at minimum cost. Should they go by the usual way, stopping at roadhouses, the stage fare alone would be \$150, and meals and accommodations on the road would cost \$30 more. The total cost of the trip from Portland to Fairbanks as we have arranged it will be \$70 per man."

A large shrinkage of the gold production of the Tanana district has occurred in the last two years on account of the scarcity of labor. Only 1,500 pick and shovel men are known to be in the district at the present time. The Tanana gold region is a placer district about 500 miles wide, embracing the Tanana river and tributaries. It is a nine days' stage journey inland from Valdez, and by trail on foot the trip requires 12 days.

In 1906 the gold output was \$1,175,000, and in 1907 it dropped to \$7,000,000 because of the lack of common labor in the diggings. This year the mine owners propose to increase the production to \$15,000,000, and they have sent their representatives to Seattle and Portland to look for laboring men.

The delegation from Fairbanks includes John Ronn, president Tanana Mineowners' association; Frank Berry, of Berry Bros, prominent miners; Falcon Jolly, president and manager of the Tanana Railway company, operating 45 miles of road out of Fairbanks. They are all ready to take them in to guarantee the first 2,000 and take them in over the trail before navigation opens.

## DEATH IN EASTERN STORM

### Six Persons Known to Have Perished in Chicago and Thereabouts—Gale Sweeps Over New York and Traffic Is Stopped.

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Chicago, Feb. 19.—Six deaths have already occurred and others are expected as the result of one of the most severe and destructive blizzards that has ever visited the middle west.

The storm has raged for two days, and streetcar and elevated road service in Chicago has been greatly crippled. A few trains have come or gone from the depots. The wind is sweeping in from the lakes with increasing fury.

News from all sections of the middle west show that the storm is general. For hours today there was interruption on the telegraph wires.

Specials to the local newspapers from New York say that the blizzard that is causing so much suffering and damage in the west struck that city today. Four inches of snow have fallen in that many hours and all traffic has practically been stopped. All boats on both rivers have been forced to tie up.

## NOW HE HAS BOTH WIFE AND COFFIN

### Luckless Umatilla Victim of a Most Inconsiderate Undertaker.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
Pendleton, Or., Feb. 19.—James Pond, an Umatilla Indian who two weeks ago purchased a costly coffin for his wife, whom he then thought was about to die, is now in a predicament. His wife has entirely recovered and the coffin dealer has declined to take back the property, contrary to Pond's understanding of the deal, and Pond has the wooden overcoat stored on his reservation ranch. His tribesmen have joined in a vigorous protest at his action in anticipating the death of his wife, and will discourage such acts in the future.

## REAR ADMIRAL SPERRY GIVEN NEW COMMAND

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Washington, Feb. 19.—The announcement was made today that Rear Admiral Sperry, commanding the fourth fleet, has been selected to command the new Philippine station. He will assume the duties of his new post upon his arrival at the islands and will have under him the warships Kentucky, Kearsarge, Illinois and Alabama.

There is intense suffering among the poor.

Traffic has come to a standstill on the railroad lines out of here and a few trains have come or gone from the depots. The wind is sweeping in from the lakes with increasing fury.

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## HORACE M'KINLEY WILL ARRIVE AT FRISCO TONIGHT

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
San Francisco, Feb. 19.—The steamer American Maru with Horace McKinley, the famous Oregon fugitive, on board, was sighted shortly after noon today off the Parallels, 23 miles out. The vessel will dock late this evening.

## THAW'S AGREE TO SEPARATE

### Financial Settlement Will Be Completed Before Evelyn Begins Suit for Annulment of Marriage to Man Now in Matteawan Insane Asylum.

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
New York, Feb. 19.—According to a story printed today in the New York World, Evelyn Thaw and her husband, now an inmate of Matteawan asylum, have positively agreed to part; that all that remains to be done before the suit for annulment of their marriage is begun is the completion of the terms of the financial settlement.

One report is that Evelyn demands more as a settlement than the Thaw family is willing to give and that an agreement on this point seems hard to

## TELEGRAPHS TO ARREST JAPANESE MAYOR AND COUNCIL ABOLISHED AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS IN HANDS OF FIVE MEN WHO MUST SERVE OR VACATE AT VOTERS' WILL.

### Little Brown Lover of Anna Bergmann Sought by the Father of Girl—Claims She Has Not Yet Attained Age of Consent.

### Strange Infatuation for Her Asiatic Lover Led San Jose Maiden to Elope— Marriage Thought to Al- ready Have Taken Place.

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Des Moines, Iowa, Feb. 19.—The Iowa supreme court, yesterday upheld the constitutionality of the Des Moines plan of municipal government.

This means that in the capital city of the state of Iowa the office of mayor and other city officials are abolished, as are the city council and all municipal boards.

The city will be governed by a commission of five men, just as the business of a bank is managed by directors. Technically one of the commissioners will be called mayor.

A vote of 25 per cent of the legal voters may displace any of the commissioners or compel them to stand for reelection. The vote of 50 per cent of the voters may ordain or submit any ordinance proposed by the commission to a popular vote.

Practically the same form of government has been adopted by a number of other cities, among them Leavenworth, Kan., and Galveston, Houston, Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas.

**Mayor Abolished.**  
Under the commission form of government the mayor and ward council are abolished. Their place is taken by a board consisting of a mayor and four other commissioners elected at large on the first Tuesday in April on each odd numbered year. The term of office is two years. Nominations are made by ballot primaries or by petitions and the names of candidates for the board are given in the city directory, but in alphabetical order.

### Supreme Court Rules Com- mission Scheme, Adopted by Des Moines People, Legal—Other Cities Mak- ing Experiment.

### Mayor and Council Abol- ished and Public Affairs in Hands of Five Men Who Must Serve or Vacate at Voters' Will.

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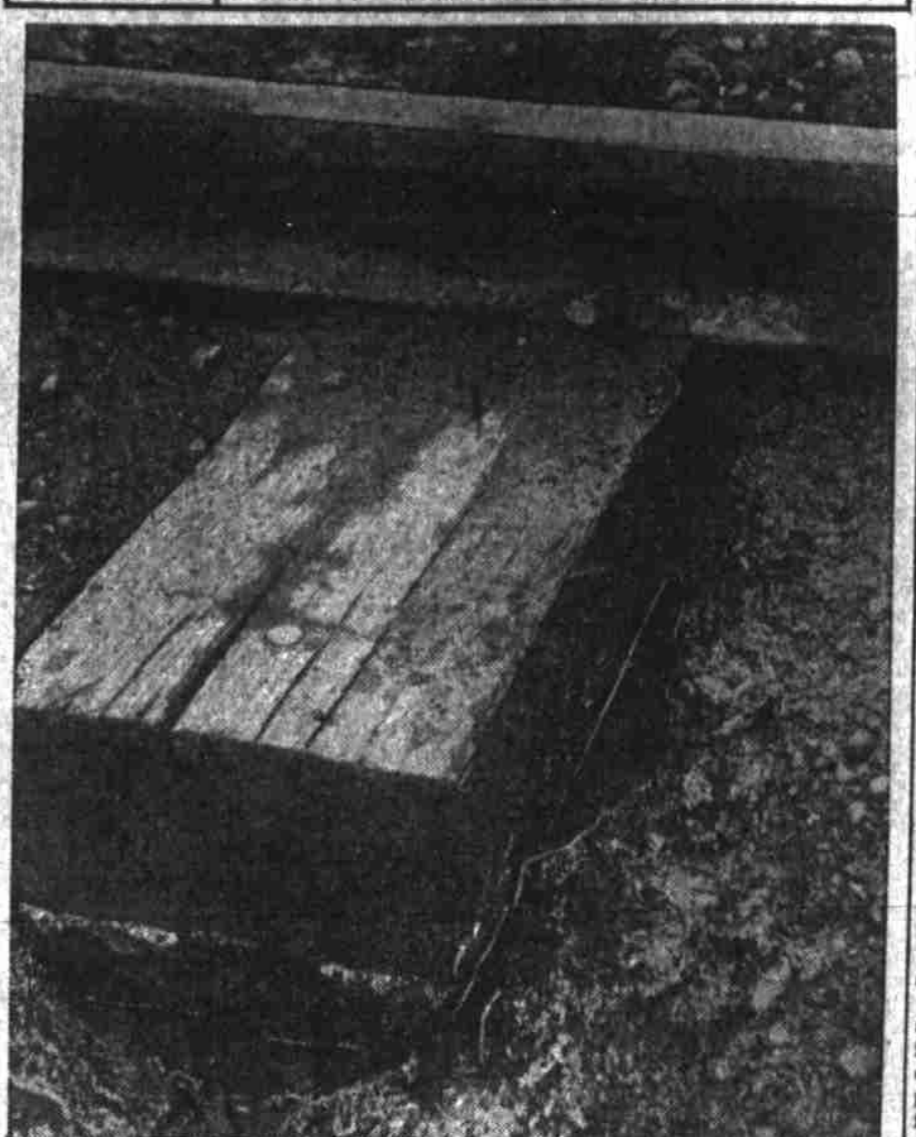
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## COMMISSIONERS LISTEN TO EVIDENCE OF ROTTEN TIES



LOOSE TIE IN BED OF SOFT MUD ON WEST SIDE ROAD.

Facts brought out by railroad commissioners:  
• Forty-seven broken fishplates in half a mile of track.  
• Spikes holding rails so loose that they can be pulled from ties by hand.  
• Rotten condition of ties and rails in places causes engines to slow down of their own accord.  
• Speed of trains on west side branch is limited to 35 miles an hour.  
• Ties "pump" in many places, due to dirt ballast.  
• Engineer of Sheridan local heard noise like breaking of a fishplate just as the engine took the trestle.  
• Commissioner West announced that track near where wreck occurred, in his opinion, was the best part of the roadbed on the west side branch.

## ST. JOHNS TO BE HANDED BIG LEMON

### Efforts to Foist \$7,500 Ferry Upon Little City for \$19,- 000 Are Being Made Quiet- ly in Order to Get Rid of Worthless Junk.

### Question Is to Be Decided by Voters at Coming Election When They Will Vote on Issuing Bonds for Pur- chase of Money Loser.

The city of St. Johns is staring at a \$19,000 ferry gold brick.

If plans which have been carefully and quietly arranged and perfected during the last few months do not miscarry the city will pay this figure for a property that cost less than \$7,500 and is generally regarded as not worth half of that amount. A property which is being operated constantly as a loss and which in the ordinary course of events could not find a purchaser at any price.

**Want Free Ferry.**  
The people of St. Johns want a municipal free ferry and petitioned the council to that effect. The council cast about for a ferry and J. Peterson and Smith, styled the St. Johns Transportation company, owners of the present ferry which has been in operation for about six months, offered to dispose of their property to the city for \$19,000.

There the matter rests pending the action of the city council. The city who are being asked to defray the operating expenses for the city, and pending election, it is expected when it is expected a bond issue will be authorized to purchase a ferry and an administrative election. If everything turns out as planned, which will buy the ferry now in operation and pay for it practically \$19,000.

Testimony of trainmen and others who had examined the track since the Forest Grove accident of last week, when three persons were killed and 29 others injured, brought out before the state railroad commissioners yesterday was to the effect that the track is in no fit condition for the running of trains, all of which is due to the Harrison policy of failure to make necessary improvements in Oregon and keep the roadbed in proper condition.

The most startling information with regard to the deplorable condition of the track in the vicinity of Forest Grove was given by a Journal representative. Facts as given by the reporter and substantiated by photographs, several of which appeared in yesterday's Journal, not only opened the eyes of the railroad officials to the rickety condition of their own track but caused the commissioners to become equally inquisitive.

**Speed Limit Reduced.**  
Engineer Zimmerman, who was running the engine of the Sheridan local, testified that the speed limit on the west side is 35 miles an hour. Engineers are not allowed to exceed this speed owing to the poor condition of the track. In places the track is so rough and "spongy" that the engineers of their own accord slow down in an effort to avoid an accident.

"A second before the wreck occurred I heard a click like the breaking of a fishplate," Zimmerman testified. "I put on the brakes immediately. Then the cars went over the embankment. When I heard this crack I knew something was wrong and had intended stopping the train to determine if possible what had happened. Before the brakes had any effect on the motion of the train the three coaches in the rear had left the rails and gone over on their sides."

**Due to Dirt Ballast.**  
The "pump" in many places. This is due to dirt ballast. In wet weather, however, nearly all tracks will "pump" to a certain extent. But the pumping on the main line is much less than on the west side branch.

William Ballou, division engineer of the Southern Pacific, and General Superintendent Buckley were before the commissioners some time and produced figures to show the amount of money

**Losses Money.**  
Meanwhile the ferry was steadily losing money for its owners. Just when they contemplated the idea of selling it to the city will never be definitely known. In some quarters it is asserted that the owner of the ferry proposition owed the city who had a local hardware store with a nice margin of profit on the organizers. Whether that is so or not, the St. Johns Transportation company found themselves confronted with a difficult proposition. They had a ferry which they had bought for \$7,500 and which they could not sell to anyone, at any price.

After the ferry had been in operation about two months, agitation was quickly begun among the voters to have a municipal free ferry. The agitation was circulated and popular opinion was stirred to such an extent that the people of St. Johns, a local hardware store, and the Republican party for mayor, placed an inconspicuous but important part in the agitation.

St. Johns concluded it wanted a ferry, and the logical thing to do was to buy the one already in operation. The city was approached and came forward with their offer already stated of \$19,000. Peterson's brother had just been appointed to a vacancy in the council.

The council as a whole have looked with favor on the offer, but of course, can do nothing until they get authority to issue the necessary bonds. This will be decided by the voters April 6. Meanwhile, Peterson's brother had just been appointed to a vacancy in the council.

Within the past week, a few citizens have voiced the sentiment that if things are allowed to drift along in the present direction the city will find itself in a predicament. It is a ferryboat which is a local hardware store, and one which the county commissioners can't agree to operate without cost of the legislature and which will never be obtained if the facts are known. Furthermore, they say the city would be compelled to pay three times the original cost price and not less than a new one could be built for.

**GEMS CUT STOCKING  
OF FRANCES NELSON**  
(United Press Leased Wire.)  
San Francisco, Feb. 19.—Frances Nelson, a 32-year-old woman, has reported to the police that she has discovered a large quantity of gems cut stockings in her wardrobe. The stockings were valued at \$1,000. She described the stockings as being of a fine quality and having been purchased at a high price. She is working on the case.

## KAISER TO BE SECOND JOHN D.

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Berlin, Feb. 19.—The imperial treasury department has under consideration a proposition to have the government establish a petroleum monopoly as a means of making up the deficit in the revenues. It is estimated that oil plants, tanks, cars, vessels and other public property necessary for the oil business would cost \$18,000,000, but that the government would make an annual profit of from \$12,000,000 to \$15,000,000.

## BROOKLYN JEWELER HELD FOR RANSOM

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
New York, Feb. 19.—The police are searching for James A. Barry, a Brooklyn jeweler, whom they think is being held somewhere for ransom.

Barry disappeared some time ago while his wife was visiting friends in Lynn, Massachusetts. When she returned she received a letter demanding a large sum of money for the release of her husband.

## SENSATIONAL BREAK IN M. P. AND W. U. STOCK

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
Chicago, Feb. 19.—Rumors of a break in the Missouri Pacific having been placed for a receiver cannot be verified, although the stock of the road declined to 30, a new low level mark, this morning.

Western Union also slumped. It is believed that some of the Gould following has been forced to throw over the Missouri Pacific, which has not been a very profitable road for many years.

## DARROW TO SAVE OLD CHUM

### Lawyer Promises to Defend Alford Kinsman, Who Killed Millionaire Ohio Banker—Says Client Believed He Was Being Robbed by Administrator.

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Chicago, Ill., Feb. 19.—When Clarence Darrow, who successfully defended Haywood, Moyer and Pettibone in the trial following the assassination of former Governor Steunenberg, arrived at his Chicago office today for the first time in many weeks, he found a letter from Alford Kinsman, O., asking Darrow to defend him on a charge of murder.

Kinsman is wealthy and a brother of State Senator Thomas Kinsman. He is accused of murdering George Birrell, millionaire banker.

"Alford used to play with me when I was a youngster," said Darrow, after having to defend him. "I guess I'll have to defend him. I thought that the banker was trying to cheat him out of his share of the estate and killed him."

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