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The Weather—Fair tonight and Thursday; warmer.

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SCHOOLS ARE TO BE COLD FOR SCHOLARS TO ATTEND

TAKE UP LAND GRANT CASE MARCH 1

Attorneys for Government and Southern Pacific Will Argue Demurrer That Day—Decision May Be Final as to Lower Court.

March 1 is the date set for the first clash between counsel for the railroad and attorneys for the government in the famous land grant suit of the United States against the Oregon & California company, involving title to land in this state worth between \$40,000,000 and \$50,000,000.

The time was set by Judge Wolverton in the United States circuit court this morning on motion of W. D. Fenton, representing the railroad company. Monday B. D. Townsend, special assistant to the attorney general, who has had the case in hand for the government, made a motion asking that a date be decided on for the first hearing. At that time Judge Wolverton was unable to set an exact date, owing to the jury cases on the calendar. During the latter part of February all these cases will be disposed of and Judge Wolverton, therefore, set the argument for March 1. The hearing on the demurrer filed by the railroad company to the charges set forth in the suit in equity brought by the government. Practically all of the legal points in the case will be brought up in the argument of this demurrer and the decision will virtually be final, so far as the lower court is concerned. Quite an array of legal talent will be in court representing the different interests in the case. For the railroad company there will be Peter F. Dutton, of San Francisco, general counsel for the Southern Pacific, William Singer Jr., of San Francisco, and W. D. Fenton, of Portland. Associated with Mr. Townsend for the prosecution will be Tracy C. Beckwith, a special assistant to the attorney general. Senator Gearin will appear for the Union Trust company of New York, trustees of the Oregon & California. In the event that the demurrer is overruled by the court Senator Gearin will answer the government's complaint, officials of the company having decided some time ago not to demur to the suit.

OLD CITY HALL TO COME DOWN

San Francisco's Earthquake Relic to Furnish One More Lawsuit.

(United Press Leased Wire.) San Francisco, Jan. 6.—Gangs of workmen today began the raising of the ruins of the city hall, after a spectacular legal fight based upon a strong sentiment among the people for its rebuilding. For more than two years the matter of the disposition of the city hall ruins was in the courts, and it was not until yesterday that the way was clear for their tearing down and carting away. Now another fight has followed the beginning of the work of demolition. The contractors, William Abbott & Co., declare they are entitled to the statue that surmounts the dome if they are compelled to bear the expense of lowering it to the ground from its lofty perch. The municipal park commission, under the charter, claims jurisdiction over the metallic idol, and wants the statue for the adornment of Golden Gate park. The commission is not prepared, however, to go to the expense of having it carefully lowered. If the contractors win, the statue will be toppled down with crowbars, its only value to them being in the metal it contains.

GATES FOR CUT IN THE TARIFF

Says 50 Per-Cent of Present Rates on the Three Is Enough.

(Washington Bureau of The Journal.) Washington, Jan. 6.—John W. Gates, writing from Texas, to the ways and means committee says: "A large part of my fortune is invested in iron, coal and lumber properties, yet I am convinced the tariff should be reduced 50 per cent on all three."

LOCAL CAR SERVICE FIRST TO SURRENDER TO THE STORM

COLUMBIA'S NEEDS URGENT

Failure of Congress to Pass River and Harbor Bill Will Do More Than Delay Government Work, Says Engineer McIndoe.

That failure on the part of congress to pass a river and harbor bill, including appropriations for the continuation of improvements at the mouth of the Columbia river and at Celilo on the upper Columbia this session would mean serious loss is the opinion of Major James F. McIndoe, United States engineer corps, in charge of this important work.

DOUGLAS MAN DISAPPEARS

Professor George Sawyers, Principal of Oakland Public Schools, Takes Holiday Trip to Red Bluff, Cal., and Mysteriously Drops From Sight.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Roseburg, Or., Jan. 6.—Professor George Sawyers, principal of the Oakland public schools of this county, has disappeared and his friends and relatives are seeking his whereabouts. Shortly after Christmas Professor Sawyers left Oakland for Red Bluff, Cal., to spend a few days duck hunting in that vicinity. He was expected home last Sunday night so as to be ready for the reopening of the school Monday morning.

LITTLE PEOPLE HOLD CARNIVAL

Enjoy Winter Sports to the Limit While Snow Lasts.

A correspondent in one of the remote country villages of the state wrote to The Journal yesterday: "We are having a snowstorm here. The young folks are sporting and the elders vice versa. That about expresses the situation in Portland, too. If nobody else is getting any fun out of the storm, the children are. It is the best opportunity of the kind that they have had for years and they are making the most of it."

Some of the boys and girls were lucky enough to receive sleds as Christmas presents. Santa Claus took a long chance in their cases, but he hit it just right this year, and the lucky ones are extremely popular with their playmates just at present.

TAF AND KNOX TO COMPLETE CABINET

(United Press Leased Wire.) Washington, Jan. 6.—Senator Knox, who is to be Taft's secretary of state, started for Augusta, Ga., today to confer with the president-elect regarding the completion of the cabinet.

FIX WATER CODE FOR LAWMAKERS

Oregon's Proposed Law Is About Ready to Go to the Legislature.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Salem, Or., Jan. 6.—Austin Buxton, master of the state grange, Senator Frank Miller of Albany and J. C. Stevens of Portland are in conference today with State Senator Lewis regarding the proposed water legislation. A code has been drafted by the conservation commission but there are still several points to be harmonized before it is ready to go to the legislature for adoption.

FIRE IN MISSOURI TOWN; LOSS \$250,000

(United Press Leased Wire.) Springfield, Mo., Jan. 6.—Fire which broke out in the Baldwin theatre here early this morning destroyed the theatre and left the new Colonial hotel and the Nixon building in ruins, with an aggregate loss of about \$250,000.

CAR SERVICE ALSO VERY BAD

Storm Continues, and Inconveniences It Causes Show How Confident Portland Is That Such Weather "Doesn't Often Occur."

On account of cold school buildings and a badly crippled street car service it has been determined by the school authorities to close the schools this afternoon and tomorrow and keep them closed until the weather moderates.

Local Forecaster F. Montgomery, temporarily in charge of the weather bureau, made the following forecast for The Journal at noon today:

"The weather will moderate gradually, with possibly rain tomorrow. A falling barometer in the Puget sound country and warm weather to the south of here indicate thawing within the next 36 hours."

"The thermometer went down to 15 degrees above zero at 10 o'clock this morning, one degree lower than at 8 o'clock in the morning, but there was little wind and it really seemed warmer than yesterday with the temperature at 17. Indications are for a 20 degree temperature to-night and perhaps during part of tomorrow."

"No reports were received from Tatoosh or North Head this morning on account of wire trouble. Storm warnings have been ordered continued at all coast ports, excepting Marshfield."

"Four inches of snow have fallen since the beginning of the storm yesterday morning."

Fifteen degrees! Ugh-r-r! Wouldn't it make you shiver? That was the point the thermometer reached at 10 o'clock this morning in its downward tumble, but it seemed a good deal colder than that about getting up this morning and while you were trying to thaw out the water pipes before you started for town.

Really, though, it was colder at 10 o'clock than at 8, for at the earlier hour the mercury stood one degree higher than it did two hours later. The dying down of the wind during the forenoon made it seem warmer. It certainly was a good deal more comfortable.

Weather Man's Hope.

And the weather man holds out hope. It may get warmer, he says—not yet, but soon. Inside of 36 hours or thereabouts he hopes that the mercury will climb up to the thawing point. But for the next day and a half it will be wise to keep the doors and windows closed.

(Continued on Page Seven.)

In the Want Ad Section of Today's Journal

- 44 Advertise for help
- 15 Advertise for situations
- 49 Advertise furnished rooms for rent
- 93 Advertise real estate for sale
- 45 Advertise business chances
- 27 Advertise houses for rent
- 10 Advertise flats for rent
- 29 Advertise housekeeping rooms for rent

Hundreds of new ads in the classified section of this paper every day. If you do not find what you want today

Read the Classified Section of Tomorrow's JOURNAL!

WANT NATIONAL BUREAU FOR UNEMPLOYED PERSONS



Oscar Straus, Upper Left; Elbert Gary, Upper Right; Thomas L. Lewis, Lower Left; Samuel Donnelly, Lower Right. Men Back of the National Free Employment Bureau.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Washington, Jan. 6.—Oscar Straus of the department of commerce and labor has come forward with another proposition quite as much of an innovation as many others which he has inaugurated and carried to success. His latest idea is to have a national free employment bureau open to every one from coast to coast. He has taken the matter up with Thomas Lewis of the labor organization; Samuel Donnelly of the government printing office; Elbert H. Gary of steel fame; and others and all are taking it seriously. In talking with him today he designated it as one of the most important subjects before the people. It hints at the root of the unnecessary unemployed. It deals with the men who want to work and who are out of jobs in certain localities where other localities, perhaps thousands of miles away, desire just such men. Continuing he said:

"Take for example the case of the tinners in New York City who are out of a job. He walks the streets and finds there are other tinners who are unable to find employment. At the present time these men are not sufficiently informed to know where the demand for their line of work is, and yet as a matter of fact 1000 tinners may be needed in Seattle to work on the buildings of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition, while four or five hundred metal workers are needed in Chicago, St. Louis and other cities of the middle west."

Three thousand men are wanted in the fruit belts of California, and yet this man in New York who wants work is incompetent to find it. Another part of Secretary Straus' scheme is to furnish transportation at a minimum rate, to be deducted from the employee's first week's wages. He expects to be able to transport a man from New York to Seattle for \$12.50 and to take this out of the man's first week's pay.

Least Powder and Fire of the immigration service are said to be actively backing Secretary Straus in this scheme.

TRUCE WITH LIGHT COMPANY

City Executive Board Unanimously Recommends Ninety-Day Contract to the Council and the Officers of Company Agree to Accept the Compromise.

"Let 'em turn off the lights," was the unanimous reply of the city executive board this morning when President B. S. Joselyn of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company made the statement that unless the company's demand for a new contract was accepted by the directors of the corporation have given orders to plunge the city in darkness at midnight on that date.

The board then adopted the amended report of its lighting committee recommending that the city council be asked to enter into a temporary contract with the company at present lighting rates. The time set for the city shall pay each month's bill in advance. City Attorney Kavanagh advises that this action will be legal in view of the emergency that has arisen.

The council will not meet before next Wednesday, and the lights may be turned off Saturday the date on which the truce extended by the light company expires. The board is of the opinion that the company will not dare to make good its threat, however, and it is quite probable that the board of directors will reconsider so as to give the council time to act.

Attorney F. V. Holman for the light company, Chief Engineer O. Huber and President B. S. Joselyn were present at the meeting and they expressed their willingness to enter into the temporary contract with the city. The question of payment for arrears on the old contract which the corporation claims is due to the city will be settled in the courts as expeditiously as possible. The city will advertise for new bids and on April 1, if the council acts on the suggestion of the executive board a new contract for lighting will be made for no longer than one and a half years. The report of the lighting committee of the board declares that the Illumination company copies its demand for alleged illegal deductions in payments

HUGHES ASKS SWEEPING REFORM

Governor of New York in Message Declares for Direct Primary Election for All Elective Officers With One Exception.

(United Press Leased Wire.) Albany, N. Y., Jan. 6.—Governor Hughes in his message read to the legislature today recommends the establishment of a system of direct primary elections for all elective officers other than presidential electors, embracing all parties.

He suggests that the law should prescribe what expenses may be incurred lawfully in connection with the nomination of candidates and that provisions be made to insure the publicity of all campaign expenditures.

It was expected that the governor would recommend a direct primary law but it was hardly thought that he would ask for such a sweeping measure as he proposes. He fought for a direct primary bill during the last session and the one before, without success. This year, with the race track gambling measure off his hands, it is probable that he will turn his main energies toward the direct election proposition.

The message also recommends that the state police be taken under the control of the state, and that the police be given a sufficient force to protect the forests and game lands, and the policy of conservation. It was pointed out that the present means of enforcing the laws, fighting and preventing fire are entirely inadequate. In this connection he made a strong plea for the maintenance of the water supply and referred to the work being done in the national movement for conservation of resources.

The message recommends that the most drastic measures be taken looking toward the protection of human life from reckless automobile drivers. Strong recommendations are also included.

FORT CONNECTS WITH VOLCANO

Diamond Head Fortification Will Be One of the World's Wonders.

(United Press Leased Wire.) Honolulu, Jan. 6.—After weeks of hard work, the army engineers are nearing the completion of their task of connecting coast fortifications by tunnels through the crater of Diamond Head.

The unique arrangement of the bastions along the crest of Leahi enabled the engineers to plan for an inner communication between the concrete emplacements. Instead of being compelled to go from one battery to another through costly tunnels, or along the outer sides of the fortifications, the men in the batteries may take short tunnels into the volcano's crater and then traverse the crater to any other part of the fortification.

The engineers are considering the use of the interior of the crater for barracks for the garrison.

COSGROVE TO LEAVE PASO ROBLES MONDAY

(United Press Leased Wire.) Paso Robles Hot Springs, Cal., Jan. 6.—Governor-elect Cosgrove of Washington today postponed the date of his departure for Olympia to be inaugurated to Monday, January 11.

Cosgrove continues to improve. He was up and about the hotel lobby last night and seemed to be nearly well. It is said the postponement was caused by the discovery that there was no need to hurry. The governor-elect expects to leave today, but he will remain until his health is entirely restored.

BABE SNATCHES BOY FROM GRAVE

9-Year-Old Mute Saves Playmate From Death by Drowning.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Marshfield, Or., Jan. 6.—The nine-year-old mute, Babe, who saved his playmate from death the five-year-old son of Attorney Bennett yesterday, the boy snatched into a bare room for a telephone pole, which was filled with water by the recent heavy rain. The water was over his head and he realized his peril and pulled the boy out.