

UNITED STATES GRAND JURY WILL INVESTIGATE GIGANTIC TIMBER LAND DEAL

THOUSANDS OF ACRES IN BAKER CO. INVOLVED

Million Dollar Salt Lake Corporation Said to Be Under Suspicion of Having Appropriated Claims.

DAVID C. ECCLES, THE SUGAR KING, UNDER FIRE

Names of Jurors Who Will Be Empaneled to Try Important Cases.

United States District Attorney John McCourt today made a special application for the calling of a federal grand jury to investigate the acquisition of more than 100,000 acres of Baker county timber land by the Oregon Lumber company, one of the largest logging and manufacturing corporations in the state, and the Sumpter Valley Railway company.

In an investigation which promises to rival in importance and sensational features the famous Oregon land fraud cases, David C. Eccles, the Salt Lake, Utah, best sugar king and multi-millionaire lumberman, will be put under the microscope.

Hints at Purpose. Although Mr. McCourt's application for the immediate calling of the federal grand jury gives only a hint of its primary purpose, the district attorney today corroborated today reports from Baker City, Or., which told that subpoenas were being served on all officers of the two companies, and on many land agents.

Eccles is President. D. C. Eccles is named as president and general manager of the Oregon Lumber company, which owns and operates mills at the Oregon towns of Ingalls, Baker City, Hood River and Austin. Charles T. Early is given as the acting manager of the company, with headquarters in Baker City.

These men believe that the road will be built from the headwaters of the Cowlitz river across a narrow strip of land to the headwaters of the north fork of the Lewis river and then follow that stream to the Columbia for a water level route into Portland as the final link of the Chicago, Milwaukee & Puget Sound, which has been reaching out for this city for some time and for the accomplishment of which it took over the Tacoma & Eastern property.

Officers of the Sumpter Valley Railway company, who will be brought before the grand jury, are David Eccles, Ogden, Utah, president and general manager; Charles W. Nibley, Salt Lake, Utah, vice president.

Taft Slumbers; Traffic Ceases. Extraordinary Consideration Is Shown by Washington Terminal Officials.

Washington, Feb. 24.—All traffic was tied up for an hour today at the big Union station because President Taft wished to sleep. When he retired in his private car "Owl" last night after his speech at Newark, he gave orders that he should not be disturbed until 8:30 today.

Gardner showed charts of prices in America and in England and declared that the fluctuations in prices had been the same in both countries. He quoted the prices of meats in this country and in Canada, declaring that the cost was greater at Montreal than in Washington.

GROOM'S BLACK HORSE CAVALRY IS IN CHARGE PHILADELPHIA CARBARNS

Philadelphia, Feb. 24.—Leaders of the striking platform men of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit company today admitted that the arrival of four companies of state constabulary and the possibility of the calling out of the state militia was a severe blow to their cause.

The leaders were in conference nearly all night, and today announced that they, too, had been preparing "drastic" measures with which to meet the new turn of events in the industrial strife that has rent the city since last Sunday, and in which several persons have lost their lives.

Already business in every direction is damaged by the car strike. Stores are suffering from lack of customers. Some schools have been closed because of danger in the streets to children who are compelled to walk through the disturbed section of the city.

More Cars Banning. More cars were running today than at any time since the strike began. The number, however, was nowhere near the normal, according to strike leaders. In most cases the cars were manned by strikebreakers while a few were operated by powerhouse employees.

TACOMA & EASTERN ROAD TO ENTER PORTLAND EAST SIDE OF MT. ST. HELENS

That the Tacoma & Eastern will head for Portland over a route to the east of Mount St. Helens instead of to the westward, as predicted by many, is the opinion of men, who, during the past few months, have been watching surveying parties active in the isolated district back of the old snow-capped sentinel of Skamania county.

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It has been surmised that the route of the road would follow the course of the Cowlitz to the Columbia, but while this would be feasible, it is said the Lewis river route would be far preferable because of its easy grades and few bends. It is also said that a pass has been found through which it is an easy matter to cross from the headwaters of the Cowlitz to those of the Lewis river on the east slope of the mountain.

Would Tap It. Another reason why it is believed the road will choose the Lewis river route is that it would tap what is perhaps the finest body of fir now standing. One

CONSERVATIVE INSURGENT URGES G. O. P. TO STAND BY 'TARIFF' AT NEXT ELECTION

Washington, Feb. 24.—Representative Gardner of Massachusetts, who is known as a "conservative insurgent," today urged all Republicans to stand by the protective tariff principle in the coming elections, and, even if defeated, not to heed the cry of "high prices."

HARRIMAN AGENT USES ORATORY TO VACATE STREETS

Attorney Zera Snow Makes Plea Before City Council for Vacation of Parts of Oregon and Adams.

O. R. & N. WANTS STREETS FROM PEOPLE

Judge O'Day Opposed Request of Railroad Company in Behalf of People.

"Gentlemen, the trouble with Oregon, and Portland in particular, is that it has too many people who make as public benefactors to promote private interests, too much initiative, too much referendum, too much U'Ren and too much O'Day."—Conclusion of speech made by Attorney Zera Snow before the city council this morning in argument for the passage of an ordinance vacating to the O. R. & N. portions of Oregon and Adams streets.

Defeated at every turn when it came to real arguments, attorneys for the Harriman interests this morning resorted to oratory, a sample of which is quoted above. The city council, after listening to the arguments of the railroad attorneys and a number of representatives of the people, adjourned out of respect to Chief of Police Cox, whose wife died this morning.

Will Visit Site. The councilmen will visit the proposed site of the west side approach of the new steel bridge in a body next Saturday afternoon and the petition of the railway company will be acted upon at the next regular session of the city legislature.

A large delegation of business men representing the East Side Business Men's club filled the council chambers when the special session was convened to consider the vacation ordinance. Judge O'Day, attorney for the business men who are protesting against the passage of the ordinance granting concessions to the railroad without compensation for such concessions, was accorded the privilege of the floor, and in a plain, (Continued on Page Four.)

LABORERS' WAGES AT SPOKANE ARE INCREASED TO \$3

Spokane, Wash., Feb. 24.—On the strength of Mayor Pratt's showing of the facts concerning the city laborers' conditions, the city council last night immediately directed that an ordinance be drafted allowing a 25 cent increase in the wages of the men on city work. The council petition filed against the remonstrance of the chamber of commerce and manufacturers by 300 business men and firms was not read, the council having learned of the overwhelming support the laborers had secured.

It is popularly believed that Pratt's enemies in the city and in the city council sought to throw him into an embarrassing position by dropping the whole controversy into his hands after the council had twice favored and twice withdrawn its support from the proposed increased wage measure. Pratt is declared to have beaten the councilmen at their own game by immediately starting a systematic investigation among the laborers' homes and by filing his sensational report.

A peculiar feature of the fight was the fact that after the chamber of commerce and manufacturers had filed a remonstrance against the adoption of an increased wage scale, several of the largest business firms of the city turned champions of the workmen and circulated a counter petition in their behalf.

The new scale will give common laborers \$3 per day and team owners \$5.

MYRTLE CREEK SAFE YIELDS ROBBERS \$100 CASH, \$7000 IN NOTES

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Myrtle Creek, Or., Feb. 24.—At an early hour this morning the general merchandise store of Rice Brothers was broken into and the safe blown. All of the contents were taken. The robbers secured about \$100 in money and \$7000 in notes. There is no clue. The safe was drilled in three places. Black powder and nitroglycerine were used.

Sad Aftermath of Deep Sea Mystery

Chicago, Feb. 24.—All hope has been given up by the family of Commander Croghan, of the navy tug Nina, of ever again seeing him alive. The case of this dashing young commander is most unfortunate for he leaves a young wife and a 16-month-old babe to mourn his loss. A cousin of his, J. A. Hawkins, living at 7125 Perry avenue, voiced the sentiments of his parents and two brothers and sisters, all of whom are grief-stricken over the apparent fate of their relative. He said: "I received a letter from Mrs. Croghan, inclosed in which was a picture of her little son, Alvin, aged 15 months. She spoke of being happy, because this was practically the last sea trip that 'Johnnie,' her husband, would have to make for a year, as he was to be transferred to shore duty at the Brooklyn navy yards and he would be able to be at home so much hereafter and play with baby. She told of receiving a letter from her husband just before his departure from Norfolk, where the Nina had towed two boats from the Brooklyn navy yard. The missive said that the commander would arrive at his home in



Chief Boatswain John S. Croghan, who is in command of the missing naval tug Nina, diagram of the search being made for her; Joseph Carrington and Ferdinand Drace of the crew (the former shown next to Croghan), and the missing boat. The Nina left Norfolk for Boston, and has never been heard from.

Malden, Mass., in two days. As the letter was written a week ago last Sunday night his wife expected him the following Tuesday night.

SHIPWRECK ON GOODWIN SANDS

Unknown Steamer Is Breaking Up—Efforts to Save Crew May Not Avail.

(United Press Leased Wire.) Dover, Del., Feb. 24.—Five huge and three lifeboats are struggling desperately to rescue the crew of an unidentified steamer that is being broken in pieces on Goodwin Sands. The sea is running high and it appears improbable that the lifesavers will be able to reach those on board the wrecked vessel. The steamer is supposed to have been driven upon the sands during the night. A heavy wind has been blowing and the tug and lifeboats are driven back every time they approach the wreck. On account of the mist and the high seas which are washing her name the name of the steamer has not been learned.

PINE CREEK PLACERS TO BE PURCHASED

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Baker City, Or., Feb. 24.—Final negotiations are being made by Seattle capitalists, represented by V. O. Hanna, for the purchase of the famous Pine Creek placers on Burnt river. The deal involves a vast area of rich placer gold. The company now owns a large tract of rich land adjoining the Pine Creek claims, and with the coming of spring will install a huge dredge with a capacity of 4800-cubic yards of dirt a day. An immense gasoline pumping plant has been purchased and is now on the ground and will be used to pump the waters of Burnt river to the higher level, where the rich gravel is located.

Notarial Commissions. Salem, Or., Feb. 24.—Notarial commissions have been issued to J. W. Maxwell, Haines, R. W. Masters, Roseburg; Floy McNeill, Ashland; Emil E. Tschelzig, Brogan; Ralph A. Holte, Stanfield; A. M. Starned, Clatsop; S. V. Kline, Weston; W. J. Moore, Lakeview; and A. E. Morten, Marshfield.

PEOPLE MUST PAY FOR UPPER DECK OF STEEL BRIDGE

Compelled to Shoulder This Burden Because of Liberal Terms of Franchise Granted to O. R. & N. Co.

East side business men find further justification for the demands which they are making at this time on the Oregon Railroad & Navigation company, in the very liberal provisions of the franchise granted to the company by the Port of Portland in August, 1909.

Say Terms Generous. Representatives of the East Side Business Men's club insist that the terms granted to the railroad company by the Port of Portland were so generous that it is incumbent upon the company to show equal liberality in the negotiations now pending.

AGED FEUDISTS IN FATAL FIGHT

Leonard Palm, 62, Shoots Mathias Zettle, 50, When the Latter Tramples Him.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) McMinnville, Or., Feb. 24.—Leonard Palm, 62 years old, was this morning found over to await the action of the Yamhill county grand jury for the shooting Monday of Mathias Zettle, 50 years old. Zettle is carrying two bullets, one in the side and one in the breast. His death is expected momentarily. Neither man will reveal the real cause of the fight, but it is known that they had been bitter enemies for years. The shooting followed a fist encounter Monday afternoon in which Palm was worsted.

223 Acres Bring \$31,500. (Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Hood River, Or., Feb. 24.—E. Brown of Portland has closed a deal through B. E. Duncan & Co. of Hood River for 223 acres of fine orchard land two miles east of Mosier. The price paid was \$31,500. One hundred acres are improved. The tract formerly belonged to George Sellinger.