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NAVY REFORMS INAUGURATED

Secretary Meyer Plans Some Sweeping Changes in Navy Department.

THE BUREAU SYSTEMS WILL BE ALTERED

Department Will Be Put on Business Basis—Bureau Chiefs Will Be Subordinated—Four Advisors Will Be Chosen for Personnel, Operations, Fleet, and Inspections—Old Methods Will Be Abolished.

Washington, Nov. 30.—Heeding the cry for reform in naval affairs, Secretary Meyer tomorrow will inaugurate the most sweeping changes in the navy department since the establishment of the bureau system in 1842. Himself a former director of banks and manufacturing companies, he hopes to put the department on a business basis beyond the dream of his predecessors. The keynote of his reforms is the subordination of the bureau chief.

Summarized, essential changes in the Meyer plan are:

The selection of four responsible advisors on subjects within the four groups into which duties of the department fall, to be known as the aide for material, the aide for personnel, the aide for operations of the fleet, and the aide for inspections.

The grouping of the bureaus into two divisions of material and personnel, according to the nature of their duties.

The establishment of a division of operations of the fleet.

The establishment of a comprehensive inspection system.

The establishment of a modern efficient cost keeping system, in the navy department and at navy yards.

The separation of navy yard work into two divisions of hulls and machinery.

The abolition of the bureau of construction and equipment.

Give Officers More Influence.

Henceforth officers who fight the ships are to have more influence in the navy department. Chosen men from among them are to be the official eyes and ears of the secretary, laden with full responsibility for their reports, but not his hands. The secretary will retain his administrative and executive power for his own exercise and that of the assistant secretary of the navy. All reports go into effect December 1, except the abolition of the bureau of equipment which congress alone can do.

The aide for operations of the fleet will be Rear Admiral Richard Wainwright, commander of the third division of the Atlantic fleet.

The aide for personnel will be Rear Admiral W. P. Potter, now chief of the bureau of navigation. The aide for material will be Rear Admiral William Swift, commandant of the Boston navy yard.

The aide for inspection will be Captain Aaron Ward, recently supervisor come a rear admiral on January 9, of the New York harbor, who will be Captain Reginald F. Nicholson, a member of the board of inspection and survey, will be made chief of the bureau of navigation, vice Potter.

SURVIVORS OF ARGO ARE SAFE IN PORT

Astoria, Nov. 30.—The lighthouse tender Manzanita, arrived in port at noon today with Captain Snyder and nine other survivors of the wrecked steamer Argo who have been marooned at the mouth of the Columbia river since Saturday morning. Members of the crew stated the wreck followed breaking of the starboard propeller.

JAP COMMISSIONERS SAIL FOR HOME.

San Francisco, Nov. 30.—After three months spent in touring America, the Japanese commercial commission sailed today for Japan on the steamer Chiyu, and Baron Shibusawa, head of the commission, sent the following telegram to President Taft: "On the eve of our departure from your shores permit me to submit to you, in behalf of the honorary commercial commissioners our profound gratitude for the courtesies you personally have shown us. It gives me particular pleasure to tender you, as chief executive of the republic, our warm appreciation for the unfailing hospitality received from all classes of your citizens. With wishes for your prosperity, and the prosperity of your great nation. Baron Shibusawa."

ROCKEFELLER'S LIFE IS IN JEOPARDY

Cleveland, Nov. 30.—The police today are seeking for two men said to be implicated in a plot to kidnap and assassinate John D. Rockefeller. Messages have been sent broadcast asking the police of the country to apprehend the suspects. The information was furnished to the police by Sawyer Smith of Minerva, Ohio, who says he overheard the men talking of a plot in Alliance, Ohio, Sunday night. He says the plotters discussed elaborate plans for doing away with the oil king. Rockefeller has abandoned his plan of attending the farewell meeting of the Euclid Avenue Baptist church. The walls of his estate are closely guarded to prevent the approach of any stranger from any direction.

ZELAYA APPEALS TO MEXICO FOR HELP

Salvador, Republic of Salvador, Nov. 30.—It is reported that when President Zelaya of Nicaragua learned of the intention of the United States to seek reparation, he vainly appealed to Mexico for help. Cablegrams received by the Italian minister here from Managua say that President Zelaya has offered to summon congress and place the presidency in its hands, thus practically abdicating.

FLOODS CARRY AWAY FIVE STEEL BRIDGES

NOOSACK RIVER DOES GREAT DAMAGE

Railway Bridges in Danger—Traffic Greatly Demoralized by slides and Washouts—Skagit River is Threatening.

Bellingham, Wash., Nov. 30.—Five steel bridges, two railway and three wagon, across the Noosack river have been carried away within the past thirty-six hours, entailing \$100,000 loss. The railway bridges are in danger, as are three highway bridges. The Bellingham Bay and British Columbia bridge at Everson is said to be undermined and swaying in the current. When it goes out it will carry a wagon bridge 250 feet down the river with it. A jam is forming against the Great Northern railway bridge at Fernside, and both railway and country bridges are likely to go out. During the past 48 hours the rainfall has been 2.87 inches.

Railway traffic is almost completely blocked by slides and washouts. Bellingham had but one train yesterday, that from the south at noon. The Northern Pacific and the Bellingham Bay and British Columbia, are completely tied up. More than five miles of the Northern Pacific track is under water and the bridge across the Noosack is gone.

The Skagit branch of the Great Northern is out of commission. Minkler, Hamilton, and Lyman are under water. Two miles of track is gone. The Puget Sound and Baker river railway tracks are washed out.

The top of the Skagit river dikes is less than two feet above the flood and the stream is still rising. There is no hope that the dikes will hold. If they break the Great Northern main line will be covered and the whole Skagit delta will be under water.

DENIES THAT ZELAYA APPEALED TO MEXICO

Mexico City, Nov. 30.—Francisco Castro, Nicaraguan minister to Mexico, in response to an inquiry regarding a rumor last night, said he was not aware of any appeal having been made by President Zelaya of Nicaragua to the Mexican government for aid.

When asked if it were true that Zelaya had made an unsuccessful appeal to Mexico, Mr. Castro said: "If the report is true, I know nothing about it, and I believe, if President Zelaya had done so, I would have been informed of such action."

Mexican government officials who are in a position to affirm or deny the report refused to be seen last night.

Hamilton Jury Completed.

Olympia, Wash., Nov. 30.—At a night session of the court the last of the 12 men who will try former Adjutant General Oris Hamilton on the first of the counts charging him with larceny by embezzlement was selected. The trial was started this morning before Judge John R. Mitchell of the Thurston county superior court.

News of Roosevelt.

Londana, B. E. A., Nov. 30.—The Roosevelt party arrived today from a hunting trip in the Inghasha plateau district which was intended to cover several weeks. The game there was abundant and the party is in excellent health.

RUNS AMUCK WITH RAZOR

Crazed Bricklayer Attacks Family, Killing Wife and Slashing Two Others.

MOTHER AND BROTHER-IN-LAW CUT DOWN

Angered by Domestic Discard Irishman Returns From Work and Attacks Family Around Fireside—Cuts Wife's Throat and Fatally Injures His Mother-in-Law—Offers no Resistance to Arrest When Police Arrive.

New York, Nov. 30.—Angered by domestic discord, alleged to have been caused by dissipation Patrick Rafferty, a brick layer, ran amuck at his home today and with a razor killed his wife, Margaret, fatally wounded his wife's mother, Margaret Kelly, and seriously slashed his wife's brother, Frank Opland. He then attempted to commit suicide by slashing his own throat but it is believed he will recover.

Shortly after he left home to go to work, Rafferty returned and found the members of the family gathered about the kitchen fire. Without a warning word he drew a razor and in a burst of maniacal frenzy attacked his wife, who fell to the floor, dying, with her throat gaping with a terrific gash from which the blood spurting. The blood lust aroused Rafferty and he turned upon Mrs. Kelly, Opland attempted to interfere, but was driven to a corner and seriously slashed. Interrupting Mrs. Kelly's attempted flight from the room he beat her to the floor, inflicting probably fatal wounds.

When the police arrived Rafferty was crouched beside his wife's lifeless body, still claspng the gory razor. He offered the police no resistance.

MRS. CHRISTY WOULD REST IN HOWARD'S ARMS

New York, Nov. 30.—"If Howard wants to make up all he has to do is to take me in his arms and I will forgive everything and forget all our troubles," said Mrs. Howard Chandler Christy, wife of the artist as she discussed the Christy differences yesterday.

She expressed this willingness when information that Mr. Christy had said in Zanesville, Ohio, where he is contesting the habeas corpus proceedings brought by his wife to recover their ten year old daughter, Natalie, that she must take the first steps toward a reconciliation.

Mrs. Christy added that she was willing to do almost anything to effect a reconciliation, except go to Zanesville to live.

"I do not want any court proceedings," Mrs. Christy continued, "and the reason I brought them was to get Natalie. I want our little girl, but I want Howard more. We can all be happy together here in the east."

"If Howard will only see things in this light we can have a happy Christmas together."

JAPANESE STEAMER SINKS WITH ALL ON BOARD

Tokio, Nov. 30.—The Japanese liner Kisagata Matsui was wrecked off Shimonsu in a terrific gale and all on board are reported lost. Twenty-five bodies are already washed ashore.

MORLEY WARNS SELFISH LORDS

Tells House of Aristocrats a Few Things About Their Misguided Course.

HAVE NO RIGHT TO DISPOSITION OF MONEY

Lord Morley Representing Minority in Budget Fight Makes Powerful Speech—Says Eyes of Nations Are on Them—Does Not Believe That British Artisans are Socialists—Warns Peers Against Opposition to Budget.

London, Nov. 30.—Lord Morley's powerful speech was the absorbing event of the budget debate yesterday in the house of lords. The secretary of state for India dilated on the importance of the struggle as viewed at home and abroad, and he called attention to that fact that foreign nations were watching anxiously the outcome of the conflict to see whether there would be any change in England's fiscal policy.

He quoted Burke to the effect that the house of lords had no right in any sense to the disposition of the public purse, and contended that if there were one thing that could not wisely be submitted to a referendum it was the budget with all its complexities. In addition, a referendum would weaken what was most important to maintain, a sense of responsibility in the house committee.

As to the lords contention that their action would arrest the wave of socialism, he refused to believe that British artisans were predatory or socialistic, but, even granting that the anxiety existing in some classes had produced a movement akin to socialism, it was hardly wise for the lords to take up a position exposing them to the charge of straining the constitution as champions of the rich against the poor.

"The more triumphant the majority for Lord Lansdowne's amendment," said Lord Morley, "the larger the disparity between the numbers of the government and the numbers of the opposition, the more flagrant will be the political scandal."

Lord Morley concluded his speech with an impressive warning that, when, tomorrow, the curtain fell on an empty house, they would know that the note had been sounded for an angry, and perhaps, a prolonged battle.

When the secretary resumed his seat, the small minority of liberal peers broke into enthusiastic cheers.

The Daily Telegraph, which has been a firm advocate of the rejection of the budget, makes the significant admission that the moral of the brilliant debate is not that the house of lords should be abolished, or be shorn of the power to veto, which is essential to its existence, but that it should be reconstituted so that its more distinguished members should not be swamped in the lobbies by the peers who have never given proof of political capacity.

SECURING JURORS FOR TRIAL OF JEFF LEWIS

Auburn, Calif., Nov. 30.—Seven jurors have been secured for the trial of Jeff Lewis for killing Ben Sweezy. Both the prosecution and defense are of the opinion that the panel will be complete, and the taking of testimony is progressing rather slowly. All of them are too busy rejoicing in the heavy rainfall to worry about their inability to get their grain in the ground, however.

According to the estimates made this morning local buyers and farmers, fully 75 per cent of the fall seeding is completed, possibly more. One week of clear weather would probably wind up the business.

It is estimated that fully 80 or 85 per cent of the 1909 wheat crop has now passed from the hands of the growers. The comparatively small amount that yet remains in the hands of the growers will probably be held until the seeding is completed or until the dollar mark is reached for club. The buyers are still quoting 90 cents but first class wheat would probably find a ready sale at the mills at a price considerably in advance of that figure. Bluestem is being quoted at \$1.02 but if there is any left in the country it is evidently not for sale.

RAINFALL BRINGS SMILE TO FACES OF WHEAT GROWERS

With more than a quarter of an inch of additional rainfall last night, the farmers of Umatilla county are still smiling, though many of them have not yet been able to complete their seeding. The total rainfall for the month is now 3.58 inches, while that for the wet season is 5.42 inches. According to C. A. Pearson, the Freewater real estate man, the precipitation in the east end of the county has been just as heavy and almost as welcome as it has been in the wheat sections. He says they have had more rain up there than they have had before at this season for ten years. He says the rain is particularly welcome to the man who has been setting out young trees for it is difficult to get the water on the new ground evenly by means of the irrigating ditches. Though practically all the small farmers in this section of the county are through with all their fall seeding, many of the larger ones have several acres yet to seed and the work

started tomorrow or Thursday. Lewis killed Sweezy in a local saloon, because of his alleged intimacy with his daughter Ida, aged nineteen. The young woman is wanted badly by the prosecution, but efforts to locate her have proved fruitless. It is believed she is hiding with Oregon relatives.

JOHNSON WONT FIGHT SOUTH OF MASON AND DIXON LINE

Savannah, Ga., Nov. 30.—That he would not fight James J. Jeffries south of the Mason and Dixon line was the statement made yesterday in a telegram to Manager Nick Arena of a Savannah Athletic club by Jack Johnson, heavyweight pugilist, in answer to the latter's offer of a purse for the battle.

WIRELESS SAYS AMERICANS WERE NOT EXECUTED

New Orleans, Nov. 30.—In the face of positive advices from Nicaragua that the Americans Groce and Cannon had been executed, officers on board the steamship Atenas, which arrived here late yesterday, were at a loss to understand a wireless message which it was reported that vessel picked up three days ago stating that the Americans had not been executed.

There was nothing to indicate the origin of the message. The wireless operator could not be located last night and those on board the vessel said that the exact wording of the message was not known to them.

PROMINENT SOCIETY MAN ASSAULTS GIRL

ENTICES HER TO OFFICE AND ADMINISTERS DRUG

Girl 14 Years of Age, Employed in Candy Store, Victim of Lust of Wealthy Man—With Promise of Position He Lured Her to Den, Where He Worked His Will.

Los Angeles, Nov. 30.—C. F. Babcock, president of the Babcock Advertising company, was jailed today, charged with criminally assaulting pretty Mecca Byler, aged 14, who supports her invalid mother. According to the girl's allegations Babcock, who is prominent in society circles, enticed her to his office, promising her more lucrative employment. There, the girl alleges, Babcock insisted she drink a glass of wine. When she awoke an hour later she claims the office was deserted.

With a sob-choked voice the girl made the following statement: "I am employed at the Pin Ton candy store and had seen Mr. Babcock several times. On November 29 he asked me if I were satisfied with my present position and I replied that I would like more money. He said he had a good position and requested that I go to his office. I went. He was drinking and started to talk about the position. He kept pressing a glass of liquor upon me and I finally drank it. Then I had no recollection of what occurred. When I awoke I was lying on the floor and it was miserably dark. My clothing was disarranged and torn."

The girl produced a torn garment, to be used as evidence. Every effort was made to keep the matter secret, as Babcock is engaged to marry soon.

BURGLAR CAUGHT WHILE WORKING AT SAFE

San Francisco, Nov. 30.—Following a desperate midnight struggle in the Laeri saloon on Market street, a safe cracker giving the name of James Rogers is a prisoner in the city jail today. Policeman Murphy discovered the man kneeling at the saloon safely working by the light of a bulls eye lantern. Murphy and two other policemen entered the room. Rogers struggled desperately, but was finally overpowered and a search of his room revealed a complete set of burglars tools.

When the man was searched at the police station several letters addressed to John Bennett Rogers, 1123 First Ave., Seattle, were found, also two checks on the Puget sound bank for \$15,000 and \$1,000 respectively were drawn in Rogers' favor. Letters from Rogers' wife and a post card were also found as well as a life insurance policy payable to her. Rogers refused to give an account of himself.

JOHNSON REVERSES TABLES ON POLICE

New York, Nov. 30.—Reclining in an easy chair on the Brooklyn police court, Jack Johnson grinned his golden smile while Magistrate Dooley read a lecture to the pugilist, Johnson announced from a burlesque stage that he would fight Sam Langford within 30 days, providing Langford would post \$10,000 side bet. Patrolman Gardner immediately arrested the negro claiming he had violated a provision of the penal code forbidding the issuance of prize fight challenges. The magistrate ruled Johnson had not violated the law and scored the officer for his action.

BURLINGTON ADOPTS COMM. SION FORM OF GOVERNMENT

Burlington, Iowa, Nov. 30.—Burlington yesterday adopted the commission form of city government by a vote of 2638 to 1268.

SAD DAY FOR PROHIBITION

Alabama Voters Reject the Amendment Offered by the Anti-Saloon Element.

PILE UP MAJORITY OF ALMOST TWENTY THOUSAND

Prohibition Made State Wide Issue by Constitutional Amendment Offered by Anti-Saloon Advocates—Defeat of Measure Is Decisive—Intense Excitement Prevails at the Polls—Minister Reprimands Girl Soliciting for votes.

Birmingham, Ala., Nov. 30.—All indications point to a majority of between 16,000 and 20,000 in Alabama against the prohibition constitutional amendment yesterday.

Chairman J. Lee Long, who has been in charge of the fight against the amendment, claims that the majority will be fully 20,000.

Early returns indicated a landslide against the amendment and succeeding bulletins fully bore out the early indications.

Jefferson county, in which is Birmingham, the largest city in the state, gave a majority of more than 1000 against the amendment. Mobile, Montgomery and Cullman counties show the largest majorities on the victorious side, and apparently the amendment carried in only three counties, Faliadega, Macon and Sumter, with Lee in doubt.

Yesterday's election cannot be regarded as a straight anti-prohibition victory. Its association with the administration of Governor Comer and his reported ability to name a successor to the governorship in Judge S. N. Kley, author of the prohibition bill, have figured prominently in the result.

A significant feature of the result is the fact that sentiment against the amendment is so widespread. Rural districts, small towns and cities, for the most part, returned substantial majorities on the winning side. A fact of especial interest in the history of the state that an expression of the whole electorate had been obtained on prohibition.

The state-wide prohibition bill was passed by a legislature elected on a local option platform.

In Birmingham the election was the most exciting ever witnessed here. Hundreds of people crowded around each polling place, women and children sang, and brass bands stationed by the anti-amendment forces played patriotic airs.

As an instance of the deep feeling displayed a prominent minister went to the polls and a young woman attempted to pin a white ribbon upon him. The minister declined, telling her that he considered it improper for young ladies to speak to men on the streets whom they did not know. The woman began crying and the minister apologized for hurting her feelings but he said he considered the polling places improper places for the young women to be. "The affair was widely discussed all over the city. Oscar Hall, tax commissioner of Baldwin county, fell dead at his home a few moments after voting for the amendment. Physicians said death was due to heart failure induced by excitement.

DEAD MAN DRIVES THROUGH COUNTRY 2 DAYS

Chico, Calif., Nov. 30.—After lying lifeless for two days in a carriage seat, with the stiffened hands grasping the reins, the body of Silas Stockwell, an aged Butte farmer, was taken home today. The horse, hitched to Stockwell's light buggy traveled around the country forty eight hours before it was found with its master dead. He died of heart failure.