



M'VEAGH RAPS CUSTOM HOUSE

In Annual Report Secretary of Treasury Discusses Recent Sugar Frauds.

POLITICS AND POLITICIANS ARE LARGELY RESPONSIBLE

Blames Also Returning American Travelers—Will Continue in Present Investigation...

Washington, Dec. 8.—In vigorous language, Franklin MacVeagh, secretary of the treasury, discusses in his annual report sent to congress today the recently exposed frauds of the sugar trust and other customs house scandals.

Speaking of the "alarming" revelations of the condition of the customs service in New York, he says that the frauds of the American Sugar Refining company showed "a long-continuing system of corruption."

As for the causes of the demoralization, the secretary regards as most deleterious "the influence of local politics and politicians" which "has promoted that laxity and law tone which prepares and furnishes an inviting soil for dishonesty and fraud."

"Unless the customs service can be released from the payment of political debts and exactions," he continues, "and from meeting the continued exigencies of political organizations, big and little, it will be impossible to have an honest service for any length of time."

"Any considerable share of the present cost of their demoralization to the public revenues, and to the efficiency of the service, and to public morality, is a strenuous amount to pay in mere liquidation of the small debts of political leaders."

"Then he also blames returning American travelers for not only being willing to defraud the government but to corrupt its employees and importers to evade duties through under-valuations and corrupt combinations."

The secretary says that the work of carrying on the investigations, the prosecutions and the reorganization, will be continued without pause and "will have, as it has had, the effective co-operation of the department of justice."

Secretary MacVeagh makes no recommendation on banking and currency reform except to urge that the change, when it comes, must be fundamentally right and freed from political partnership, special interest or pride of opinion.

GUGGENHEIMS BOUGHT CLAIMS

Spokane Mining Man Furnished Testimony Which Sheds Light on Deals.

MINNEAPOLIS MAN WAS MEDIUM OF OPERATION

Frederick Burbidge of Spokane Called to Stand—Tried to Block Guggenheim Deal Because He Could Make More on Another—Was no Combination at Time of Entry.

Spokane, Dec. 8.—The government inquiry into the Cunningham coal claims developed a fact today of some interest which leads to the belief that the Guggenheims have been buying up coal claims, operating through H. V. Winchell, of Minneapolis, who has purchased six claims, taking the title in his own name, and others.

GUARDS GOLD WITH SLEEPLESS VIGIL

With Guard Earned Wealth in Iron Safe, Alaska Miner Guards It From Seattle to San Francisco—Stays Up All Night With Treasure.

San Francisco, Dec. 8.—He all night vigil at the side of a small iron safe containing \$100,000 in Alaskan gold ended Samuel Hogan, an Alaskan miner, today transferred his wealth to the United States and returned to the Argonaut hotel to get the sleep which he had denied himself while the treasure was in his possession.

COFFROTH IS AFTER ENGLISH FIGHTERS

New York, Dec. 8.—When Battle promoter, James Coffroth, arrives in London he will begin a campaign that has for its object the matching of England's top notchers in at least three divisions with American champions, according to a report in circulation today.

REGIMENTS BATTLE WHILE ON REVIEW

Paris, Dec. 8.—Scores of Moroccan soldiers were killed early today during the military review by the sultan, according to dispatches received from Fez.

King Leopold Very Ill

Brussels, Dec. 8.—In spite of an official bulletin issued early today stating that King Leopold's condition was improved, it is believed the aged monarch is dying. Leopold is suffering from a paralytic attack.

GOVERNOR HAY ON THE GRILL

Occupies Stand for Five Hours in Hamilton Embezzlement Trial.

STATE WILL CLOSE ITS CASE TONIGHT

Governor and Attorneys Have Match of Wits—Hay Insists That Slurring Remark of Attorney General Caused Hamilton to Speak—Counsel for Defendant Will Show That State Has Not Proved Embezzlement.

Olympia, Wash., Dec. 8.—Five hours yesterday Governor M. E. Hay, on the witness stand at the trial of former Adjutant General Orvis Hamilton, accused of embezzling a large sum from the state military funds, was subjected to a severe cross-examination by the counsel for the defense.

MAN SLIPPED AND DROWNED IN GUTTER

Negroni City, Calif., Dec. 8.—Lying in a gutter the head partially smashed in water accumulated from rains, the body of George Tallon, a business man, was found today.

INTERNAL MACHINE WRECK HOUSE INJURING SEVEN

Youngstown, Ohio, Dec. 8.—William Birney, father of the strikebreaker, was badly injured and seven other persons hurt when the house in which they were living was shattered by the explosion of an internal machine placed under the foundation early today.

MAN SHOT DURING SIX DAY BIKE RACE

New York, Dec. 8.—During the six day bicycle race yesterday, 100 spectators were nearly panic stricken when "Tug" Brown was shot in the hip during a free for all fight resulting from the crowd tormenting Bert Keyes, a lightweight pugilist in a sent box.

WRECK AT HORSESHOE CURVE DEMORALIZES TRAIN TRAFFIC

What might have been a serious wreck occurred just west of Coe, the new station at Horseshoe Curve, 12 miles west of Pendleton, about 4:30 this morning.

A few hours before the special car of General Superintendent M. J. Buckley and containing besides that official, Superintendent William Boltons, passed over the spot where the wreck occurred. Had their train been the one slated for the mishap, the officials themselves would have been mixed up in it, for they were in the last car on the train.

TRAINMEN IN EAST WILL DEMAND INCREASE

New York, Dec. 8.—Fifth Vice President Murdock of the Railway Trainmen's Union, declared today there is little probability of the strike that has paralyzed freight movements in the northwest, extending to the Atlantic seaboard.

NOTED NEWSPAPER MAN PASSES AWAY

Cincinnati, Dec. 8.—Lemuel T. Atwood, financial head of the Scripps-McLure league of newspapers, died at his home here last night after an illness of six months.

ELECTRIC LIGHT SIGNALS WARNED CUSTOMS WEIGHERS

New York, Dec. 8.—Harry Van Duzen, formerly assistant government weigher at the sugar docks in Brooklyn yesterday testified that an elaborate system of electric light signals was used to warn the weighers when government officials were approaching.

KERMIT ROOSEVELT BAGS GAME IN THE JUNGLES

Nairobi, Dec. 8.—Kermit Roosevelt arrived here today after several successful weeks in the forest. Two bull bongoes, considered the rarest specimen of African antelope, two cows and other trophies, fell to his gun.

DEFEATED GENERAL DOOMED TO DEATH

Vasquez Tried and Condemned by Court Martial. Zelaya Will Add Another to His List of Bloody Deeds—Insurgents Won Decisive Victory and Are Following It Up.

Mexico City, Dec. 8.—An unconfirmed dispatch from Managua, Nicaragua, says that General Vasquez was tried by court martial today and condemned to death because he was defeated by the insurgents in yesterday's battle near Rama.

SHELDEN CHARGED WITH 1ST DEGREE GRAND LARCENY

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Alexander Wins in Los Angeles

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MEXICO TO CONFER WITH U. S. TO SETTLE EMBROGLIO

Mexico City, Dec. 8.—Henrique Creel, the former Mexican ambassador to Washington, now governor of Chihuahua, is today en route to Washington to represent Mexico in the conference that will have for its object the immediate settlement of the Nicaraguan embroglio.

HONDURAS PROCLAIMS GENERAL MARTIAL LAW

Washington, Dec. 8.—Fearing an attempt on the part of former President Manuel Bonilla to regain power, the Honduran government has proclaimed martial law throughout the country, according to Colon advices today.

MANY PERISH IN EXPLOSION

Largest Gas Tank in World Explodes and Twenty-seven Are Killed.

MEN DISAPPEAR IN GREAT MASS OF FLAMES

Leak in New Gasometer Causes Disaster—Firemen Prevented by Intense Flames From Saving Burning Men—Forty Men Dangerously Injured—Fire Spread With Great Rapidity—Little Hope of Finding Missing Men.

Hamburg, Dec. 8.—The explosion of two gas tanks in the so-called "Kleines Grasbrook" on the Elbe front yesterday afternoon was followed by an extensive fire and the loss of many lives.

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Former President in Field. New Orleans, Dec. 8.—Dr. Cardenas, former president of Nicaragua, whose administration was overthrown by Zelaya in 1926, has taken the field against the dictator and is heading an expedition from Costa Rica into Nicaragua, according today's advices.