

LINE AND STAFF IN DEEP FEUD

Each Wants to Be Supreme In Regard to Hospital Ships.

Rear Admiral Brownson, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, Resigns Because Surgeon General Rixey Wins Decision—May Result in Radical Change in System.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Harmony within the United States navy bureaucracy seems to be in for a severe jolt. Open war already has been declared between the bureau of navigation and the bureau of medicine and surgery, the initial result of which has been the resignation of Rear Admiral Brownson from his position as chief of the former bureau, and, coming just at a time when severe criticism is being aimed at the administration of the Navy department, the charges involving the bureau system in particular, the ruction may culminate in some radical changes.

Surgeon General Rixey, whose recommendation in favor of putting a medical officer in absolute command of a hospital ship was approved by President Roosevelt against the view of Admiral Brownson, throws down the gauntlet to the bureau of navigation in a formal statement issued last night. The surgeon general charges that the bureau of navigation has interfered in an unwarranted manner with the bureau of medicine and surgery, and to the extent of crippling its usefulness. Comparatively trivial events sometimes lead to sweeping reforms, and, if there be defects in management, in naval construction and in methods of administration, the Roosevelt-Brownson-Rixey imbroglio is likely to be the means of bringing matters to a focus and causing remedies to be applied where needed.

It should not be forgotten that the president is as staunch a friend of the navy as the navy has, in considering the present controversy, which so materially involves himself. Popular sentiment naturally would incline the expert observer to side with the line officers in the conflict with the staff, because the line is the fighting contingent from which heroes most frequently are developed in days of war. In siding against the line officers in the present case, the president may or may not be aiming his spear at the bureau system. He has taken a ground he thinks is for the best interests of the service.

FLOUR OUTPUT SMALLER.

Minneapolis Statistics Show Effect of Financial Stringency.

Minneapolis, Dec. 26.—Flour shipments from Minneapolis for 1907 will fall short of the total shipped during 1906 by nearly a million barrels. This decrease has been apparently due to the financial stringency, as the figures for each month show that only in three months of the entire year have the shipments for 1907 exceeded those for the same month in 1906.

The number of barrels of flour sent out from Minneapolis by the various mills so far this year has been 13,825,375, while for the corresponding period in 1906 there were 14,573,123 barrels shipped, a deficit of 747,748 barrels.

Despite the recent financial stringency, the sales of flour for use in the country or for export did not suffer so much as was generally expected. The shipments for October this year were 1,449,802 barrels, against 1,593,097 last year. In November of this year the greatest falling off is shown with shipments of 1,067,970 barrels, against 1,318,648 a year ago. For the trading days in December up to the present, 679,271 barrels have been sent out as against 979,494 for the corresponding days last year.

Wheels Turn Again.

Pittsburg, Dec. 26.—Christmas in Pittsburg and vicinity was made doubly joyous by the announcement that by January 6 all of the thousands of wheels of industry in the mills of McKeesport, Glassport, Duquesne and allied plants in the Monongahela valley would be in operation. Over forty thousand men who have been idle for several weeks will return to work. It is also said that other mills in the district will also resume, practically doubling the number of workmen employed within fifty miles of Pittsburg.

Will Sing After Death.

Paris, Dec. 26.—There was a unique ceremony this afternoon in the subterranean passages of the opera house. It consisted of depositing in a specially prepared vault a talking machine and a number of discs bearing records of the voices of the greatest singers of the 20th century. Tarnagoc, Caruso, Scotti, Plancon, Patti, Melba, Calve and others are represented in the selection. At the end of a hundred years they will be opened and played.

Great Tinsplate Mill to Resume.

Newcastle, Pa., Dec. 26.—Ten of the 30 pot mills of the Shenango tin mills here will resume operations January 6 next. Ten additional mills will resume shortly after, and it is expected that the entire plant will be running full force before the end of January. The mill, said to be the largest tin plant in the world, has been idle since July 31. Fully a thousand men are affected.

OPEN HEARTS AND PURSES.

San Francisco Banks Generous With Overworked Clerks.

San Francisco, Dec. 25.—Elated at the calm course of business which marked the discontinuance of the holidays, the local bankers opened their hearts and purses and their clerks and other employees were richer by \$30,000 than they were yesterday. Almost every bank in the city rewarded its men for the long hours of toil during the recent trying days.

The Crocker National bank led off yesterday morning, when a yellow envelope was placed on the desk of every employe. It contained an amount equivalent to one month's salary. The amount thus distributed exceeded \$10,000. The Crocker interests are very large and they rewarded in a similar fashion their employes in other lines. Other banks have generously treated their men. Some added turkeys to the presents of gold. Others added boxes of fruit.

The Merchants Exchange gave every one of its employes a big, fat turkey. It employes 100 people. One mercantile firm provided every one of its employes with all the things that go to make up a Christmas dinner—turkeys, vegetables, fruit and pie.

The Standard Oil company distributed a large sum among its local employes.

The usual Christmas dinners to the poor, the orphans, cripples and others began Sunday and will continue on a greater scale than ever until after Christmas.

SPECIAL SESSION PROBABLE.

Governor of Utah Wants Peace Assured at Goldfield.

Goldfield, Nev., Dec. 25.—"It is possible that the governor will call a special session of the legislature," said Captain Cox, "if by so doing any immediate results which will better the situation can be obtained."

The rumor has been current here that a company of rangers is contemplated, and, as this could not be done without action by the legislature, the statement of Captain Cox is taken to mean that, such a plan is decided upon, the legislature will be convened.

A suit against the Western Federation of Miners is to be brought by the Goldfield Mineowners' association in the Federal court. An injunction will be asked for restraining the members of the local miners union, which is affiliated with the Western Federation, from interfering in any way with the operation of the mines in Goldfield. This suit will be filed December 26.

It has been definitely decided that after December 30 each individual mine owner or each company operating a mine or lease, shall take care of his own property, independent of the association. This will necessitate the putting on of many more guards.

Acting President Mahoney has made no attempt yet to appear before the mineowners and present any proposition looking to a solution of the difficulties, if he has prepared any such proposition, which he denies.

FLEET AT TRINIDAD.

Battleships Complete First Stage of Long Voyage.

New York, Dec. 25.—Special dispatches from Port of Spain, island of Trinidad, announce the arrival there of the Atlantic fleet on its way to the Pacific. The fleet is said to have passed into the Gulf of Para and anchored there in four columns five miles off the town.

According to the dispatches, the only mishap on the trip from Hampton Roads to Port of Spain was a temporary derangement of the Kentuck's steering gear. They also say that the entire fleet stopped engines for nine minutes Sunday and had masted flags while Ordinary Seaman G. E. Piper, who died of meningitis aboard the Alabama, was buried.

The harbor of Port of Spain, while well protected, is shallow for a long distance out from the beach and vessels of great draft like the battleships anchor a long way out. The fleet will remain in the harbor for several days and will coal there. Supplies will also be taken on board of the supply ship Culgoa and the refrigerator ship Glacier.

Reduce Entire Force.

Sacramento, Dec. 25.—That there is to be a great reduction of the force employed in the local railroad shops after the first of the year was admitted yesterday by officials of the company, who say that the retrenchment is to be general on the Harriman system. In an interview, an official said: "The orders for the general layoff Christmas week came from New York, not San Francisco, and apply to the entire system, not Sacramento alone. It is purely an economical measure, paving the way for a reduction of force."

Largest in Navy.

Troy, N. Y., Dec. 25.—Orders have been received at Watervliet arsenal for two of the new type 14-inch coast guns. The work will be commenced January 1. The guns will be the first of this type ever made in this country. The 14-inch weapon is about 40 feet long and weighs about 50 tons. It throws a heavier projectile than the 12-inch gun to a greater distance. The 14-inch tube will in time supplant the 12-inch rifle on the sea coast.

Denver Begins to Pay.

Denver, Dec. 25.—The first installment (\$25,000) of the \$100,000 fund pledged to the Democratic National committee by the Denver Convention league was forwarded yesterday to Chairman Thomas Taggart, at French Lick, Ind. The remainder will be paid in equal installments on January 22, February 22, and March 22.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SIXTIETH SESSION OF NATIONAL LAWMAKERS

Saturday, December 21.

Washington, Dec. 21.—The senate today passed a bill suspending during the year 1907 the requirement that miners shall do at least \$100 worth of work annually during the period in which their claims are being perfected.

Cullom introduced a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution limiting the terms of the president and vice president to six years and prohibiting re-election for a second term.

A number of other bills and resolutions were introduced. After being in session 45 minutes, the senate today adjourned until January 6.

A bill providing security to depositors of banks and for the prevention of hoarding of currency, was introduced today by Senator Owen, of Oklahoma. It fixes a tax upon all deposits and from the fund thus created provides for the payment in full of all depositors when a bank is declared insolvent. The secretary of the treasury is directed to maintain a fund of \$100,000,000 in treasury notes, which may be loaned on bonds to 90 per cent of their value. The bill provides that advances from it shall be charged for at the rate of 6 per cent for the first four months and thereafter at the rate of 8 per cent.

Senator Burkett reintroduced his grazing bill of last session. It provides for the leasing of the public domain to cattle owners for the maintenance of their stock, giving, however, settlers the right to enter and to locate upon land at any time.

Washington, Dec. 21.—After being in session about 20 minutes, the house of representatives today adjourned until January 6. The proceedings were enlivened by a brief but fierce speech by Gaines of Tennessee, who criticized the house for its inaction and for taking such a long recess at a time "when we should have gone to Wall street and throttled the thieves and turned back to the honest people their hard earnings."

Gaines was preceded by Hepburn of Iowa, who protested against what he said was the indiscriminate way in which committees were given authority to sit during the session of the house, thereby causing members to be immune from arrest in case it became necessary to secure a quorum.

Both Williams and De Armond were upon the floor, but took no notice of each other.

RIXEY TELLS ALL ABOUT IT.

Brownson Claimed Authority Over Hospital Ships.

Washington, Dec. 27.—That a serious breach exists between the bureau of navigation and the bureau of medicine of the navy, involving the question of the responsibility of the latter bureau, was made apparent in a statement issued by Surgeon General Presley M. Rixey, of the navy, in which he touches upon the circumstances leading up to the probable selection by the president of a medical officer to command the hospital ship Relief over the protest of Rear Admiral Brownson, chief of the bureau of navigation, who has sent his resignation to the president. While disclaiming exact knowledge as to the cause of Admiral Brownson's resignation, the surgeon general's statement leaves little room for doubt that the controversy he reviews was a potent factor.

Oregon Men Appointed.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The president sent the senate the following Oregon nominations just before the holiday recess: Land office receivers—Albert A. Roberts, La Grande; Fred P. Cronmiller, Lakeview; Frank Davey, Burnsville; Land office registers—Frank C. Brantwell, La Grande; John N. Watson, Lakeview. Consuls—Maxwell Blake, of Missouri, at Dunferline, Scotland; George B. Killmaster, of Michigan, at Newcastle, New South Wales; John H. McCunn, of Wisconsin, at Glasgow, Scotland; Maxwell K. Moorhead, of Pennsylvania, at Acapulco, Mexico.

Open Land of Spokanes.

Washington, Dec. 26.—To facilitate the opening of the unallotted portion of the Spokane Indian reservation, Representative Jones and Senator Piles have asked the Indian office to send an inspector to Washington to conclude negotiations with the Spokane Indians under which congress can authorize the disposition of all land remaining when allotments are completed. It is hoped that an agreement can be speedily reached so that legislation opening the reservation to entry can be passed this season.

How to Make Travel Safe.

Washington, Dec. 25.—Every citizen of the United States is more or less interested in the question of safe operation of railway trains, and that the majority of people believe that the railroads are not doing all they could do to reduce the fearful toll of life which the operation of American railways exacts annually is evident from the fact that there has been an insistent public demand for the Interstate Commerce commission to take up the question.

Close Alaskan River Fishing.

Washington, Dec. 24.—President Roosevelt indicated that he would set aside Wood river, in Alaska, for salmon propagation. The order will prohibit salmon fishing in this river. This arrangement was taken on recommendation to the president by a delegation of fishermen presented by Senator Fulton, of Oregon, and Delegate Cole, of Alaska.

DECIDES AGAINST OREGON.

Commission Finds Denatured Alcohol Rates Not Too High.

Washington, Dec. 24.—In an opinion rendered by Commissioner Clark for the Interstate Commerce commission in the case of the Railroad commission of Oregon against the O. R. & N. and other railroads, important action was taken respecting shipments of denatured alcohol. The complaint asks for a reduction in the rates on denatured alcohol to Oregon points. The record shows that denatured alcohol is manufactured in California and is sold in the North Pacific cities at a price which could be met by the Eastern product only by reducing the transportation charges to nothing.

An effort to place denatured alcohol on a parity with spirits would lead either to a large increase in the charges on the proof spirits or a practical wiping out of the charges on the denatured article. Such increase in the charges on the proof spirits, in the opinion of the commission, probably would render futile all effort to compete with the California product. The rates complained of were not shown to be unreasonable, unduly discriminatory or unjustly prejudicial. The commission therefore dismissed the petition.

General to Retire.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Brigadier General Charles S. Smith, on special duty at the proving grounds at Sandy Hook, N. J., has been placed on the retired list of the army by operation of the law on account of age. General Smith is the junior brigadier, having only been appointed to that grade in October last. He is a native of Vermont, but was appointed to the military academy in July, 1862, from Illinois. At the time of his promotion to the grade of brigadier general he was in command of the Sandy Hook proving grounds, with which station he had been identified for many years.

Send Sympathy to Taft.

Washington, Dec. 28.—One of the first dispatches laid before Secretary Taft on his return to the War department was from Manila, P. I., telling of the organization under a new charter of the Banco Espanol Filipino and the election of directors. The dispatch added: "Deem it first duty to express our deep sympathy with you in your bereavement and assure you of our gratitude for your earnest and successful support. We shall use our best efforts toward realization of your policy for advancement of our country."

Fight Smelter Nuisance.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The fight of the Salt Lake valley farmers against the alleged nuisance of the smelting of ore by big furnaces controlled by the Utah Consolidated company in the Bingham canyon reached the United States Supreme court today. Senator Sutherland asked the high tribunal to review the judgment of the lower court granting an injunction against the operation of the smelters. The farmers declare that the fumes from the smelters render agricultural land valueless.

Greene and Gaynor Lose.

Washington, Dec. 26.—The Supreme court of the United States has denied the petition for writs of certiorari bringing to that court the cases of Benjamin D. Greene and John F. Gaynor, who were under sentence to pay a fine of \$575,749 and to undergo terms of imprisonment of four years each on the charges of embezzlement and conspiracy in connection with Captain Oberlin M. Carter's scheme to defraud the United States in connection with harbor improvements at Savannah, Ga.

Trainmen Are Not Guilty.

Washington, Dec. 26.—A verdict of not guilty was returned by the jury in the case of Engineer Hildebrand, Conductor Hoffmeyer, Fireman McClellan and brakeman Rudder, the trainmen who were indicted for manslaughter in connection with the wreck at Terra Cotta, D. C., on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad on December 30, 1906, when 43 persons were killed and upwards of three score injured. The trial had been in progress for three weeks.

New Presidential Postoffices.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Following are among the postoffices which will become presidential January 1: Oregon—Bandon, Clatskanie, Echo, Gresham, 1,100 each; Lents, 1,000; Vale, 1,300. Washington—Burlington, Chehalis, Matton, Rockford, 1,100 each; Raymond, 1,400; Friday Harbor, 1,000. Idaho—Malad City and Parma, 1,000 each.

Medals for Panama Service.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Medals of a suitable character are to be given to all citizens of the United States who have served the government on the Isthmus of Panama for two years and who during that period have rendered satisfactory service.

New Money Order Offices.

Washington, Dec. 26.—On January 1 the following postoffices will become domestic money order offices: Oregon—Beaver, De Moss Springs, Eddyville, Murphy, Norway, Wren. Washington—Stratford. Idaho—Cherry Creek.

Hawaiian Officials Confirmed.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The senate has confirmed the nomination of Walter F. Frear to be governor of Hawaii and of Fred S. Hartwell and S. M. Ballou to be chief justice and associate justice respectively of that territory.

STUDY FORESTRY.

Students at Oregon Agricultural College Gathering Tree Seeds.

By E. A. Lake, Oregon Agricultural College.

The students in forestry at the Agricultural college are making their first collection of seeds of native trees and shrubs for use in the establishment of a forest tree nursery and arboretum. The purpose in view is not only that the work shall be instructive to the student in the study of seeds and seedage, silviculture and dendrology, but that the plant shall be a source of data to the whole state upon the growth, habit, resistance, and general character of the trees and shrubs of Oregon, so far as is possible to grow them upon the same site and similar conditions.

Not only are local seeds being collected but seeds from the home districts are coming in from friends of students and the institution. This kindness on the part of those residing in the more distant and mountainous parts of the state is highly appreciated, as it enables the class to obtain a much greater variety than otherwise would be possible with the time and means at the command of either students or institution.

Owing to the fact that the course is but one year old, only the general and preliminary phases of the subject have been considered by the students in the work. The O. A. C. Forest club, an organization of those interested in the forests of the state, is now discussing forest fire laws, their enforcement, efficiency and improvement. Each student is assigned a phase of the topic in hand and in due time reports his findings to the club. Prominent timber, mill and lumbermen upon invitation discuss various topics before the club, as transportation, timber preservation, forest conservation, re-forestation, improved methods of lumbering, U. S. forest service work and similar topics.

Later the advanced students will take up work looking to the solution of some of the very practical problems now before the wood users of the country.

The great problem of what to do with the waste, including the standing timber that is injured by insect and fungus foes, will be one of the first to be investigated as soon as the equipment of the department will permit.

The statement is made upon good authority that fifteen per cent of the mature timber on the western slope of the central region of the Cascade is wholly lost through fungous diseases, and that another fifteen per cent is graded as cull. Beetles, borers and minor foes do considerable further damage, and it is safe to say that the sum total of these losses must amount to millions of dollars. It is reasonable to suppose, in the face of recent results in agricultural practices in our own country, to say nothing of the modern forestry practices of Europe, that the major part of this loss could be turned to gain through the intelligent investigation of the troubles and the application of modern measures for combatting these foes of the forest.

Other great problems are those relating to taxation, re-forestation, utilizing mill waste, improved methods of harvesting the crops, disposing of the debris and weed trees, timber technology and the preservation of lumber.

These problems together with many more it is the purpose of the college to help solve through the department of forestry, as well as train men to take hold of the practical work and problems of our forests and thus insure the best possible use of the tree crop.

Publications for Farmers.

The following publications of interest to farmers and others have been issued by the Agricultural department of the Federal government and will be furnished free, so long as they are available, except where otherwise noted, upon application to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.:

Farmers' Bulletin No. 116.—Irrigation in Fruit Growing. By E. J. Wickson, M. A., professor of agricultural practice, University of California, and horticulturist of the California experiment station. Pp. 48, figs. 8. A statement of the relations of irrigation to fruit production, and of irrigation methods as they have been demonstrated by Pacific coast experience.

Farmers' Bulletin No. 138.—Irrigation in Field and Garden. By E. J. Wickson, M. A. Pp. 40, figs. 18. This bulletin discusses the subject from the standpoint of the individual farmer, and contains instructions on the determination of ditch levels, the measurement of small streams, sources of water supply and their use, the distribution of irrigation water, methods of applying water, the choice of an irrigation method, and the time for the application of water.

Bulletin No. 147.—Report on Drainage Investigations in 1903. By C. G. Elliott, drainage expert, irrigation investigations, office of experiment stations. Pp. 62, pls. 5, figs. 12. Price 10 cents. This is a report of the work done by Mr. Elliott during the year 1903. It includes discussions of plans for drainage near Fresno, Cal., in the Yakima and Ahtanum valleys, Washington, in the Grey Bull valley, Wyoming, in the Missouri valley and in Hancock county, Iowa, and of drainage as a preventive of hillside erosion in Georgia.

Apple Sauce.

Wash and wipe firm tart apples and cut, without peeling, into pieces. Put over the fire with as little water as possible to prevent their scorching, and simmer gently until reduced to a soft mass. Rub through a colander, return to the fire, add a lump of butter, sugar to taste and a dash of cinnamon. As soon as the sugar is dissolved stir in the juice of a lemon and take from the fire.

OWNED BY CORPORATIONS

Ex-Senator Pettigrew Makes Startling Attack on Congress.

Speaker Cannon as Bad as the Rest—He and Allison Aided Railroads in Stealing Rich Public Lands in Western States—Both Houses of Congress Affected.

Washington, Dec. 24.—Ex-Senator Pettigrew, of South Dakota, whose defeat for re-election was one of the things that most gratified the late Mark Hanna, has come out with a fierce denunciation of congress as a body, in which he personally attacks Speaker Cannon. He declares that Mr. Cannon aided the railroads to steal public lands in the West. When the charges were brought to Mr. Cannon's attention, he said: "When I am attacked by a man of reputation and character I will defend myself."

"Congress is owned, body and soul, by the corporations," is Pettigrew's opening shot. Continuing, he says: "I was a member of the senate for 12 years, and I do not hesitate to say that the railroads control a majority of the members of the senate and they own the house."

"It was in 1898 that I endeavored to have a law passed that would prevent the railroads from stealing the public lands. Finally I secured an amendment to the sundry civil bill which would have operated effectually to prevent the railroads from entering public lands, but Allison and Cannon were both onto their jobs."

"The bill was reported back to the senate about 5 o'clock in the morning the last day of the session and it was passed. I did not know until afterward that Allison and Cannon had interpolated a phrase of a few words, which virtually made nugatory the intent and purposes of my amendment."

"This phrase was 'or any other claimant or patentee.' Under this wording the railroads were enabled to enter the choice lands of the West and they lost no time in doing it."

"It was the same way with the Union Pacific railroad bills. Huntington jammed through the house a bill to have the government give up its second mortgage, which would have given the road millions of dollars. He had a clear majority in the senate and the bill would have passed that body had not some senators talked it to death."

"It was the same way with the railroad pooling bill. It passed the house and would have gone through the senate had it not been talked to death. The senators opposing these bills could have had \$100,000 apiece to quit talking, and would have been allowed to vote any way they chose, because the railroads had enough votes to pass the measure without us."

RETURN VIA SUEZ.

Pick of Evans' Ships to Make Long Ocean Trip.

Washington, Dec. 24.—"The program of the return of the battleship fleet is a matter that has been discussed among the officials of the Navy department, but as yet no decision has been reached, and will not be for some time to come," says Secretary of the Navy Metcalf. The secretary's remark was called out by a wireless message from the flagship Connecticut, stating that Admiral Evans had authorized the Associated Press to say it is his personal belief that the Navy department's present intention to have the battleship fleet return by way of the Suez canal next summer or fall.

As the president, through Secretary Loeb, previously had spoken to the same effect, it seems clear that Admiral Evans' statement was not suggested by any definite move so far determined upon by those supreme in authority. In naval circles the opinion prevails that at most only a squadron compend of such vessels as the voyage to the Pacific shall have demonstrated to be "the pick of the fleet," will be sent through the Suez canal, while the remainder will take the shorter route around the Horn.

Makes New World Record.

San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 24.—A. Tepperwein today completed a ten days' shooting series during which he shot at 72,500 targets and missed nine. This breaks the world's record both as to number of targets shot at and the number missed. Mr. Tepperwein closed the exhibition in whirlwind fashion, shooting at the final 6,500 targets and missing only one. Tepperwein used a 22-caliber automatic rifle and the blocks were two and a half inches thick and were thrown at a distance of 20 feet from the marksman.

Fruits of Grand Jury.

Helena, Mont., Dec. 24.—Among the 27 persons indicted by the Federal grand jury yesterday, two were made public today with the arrest of O. C. Dallas, chief clerk, and J. D. McLeod, at the head of the survey department in the office of the United States surveyor general in this city. The indictment alleges forgery and conspiracy to defraud the government of the United States. Both are well known citizens of Helena.

Senator Mallory Dead.

Pensacola, Fla., Dec. 24.—United States Senator Stephen R. Mallory died at 2:58 yesterday morning, after an illness caused by a general breakdown on November 20, with paralysis of the left side.