

BUILD NEW ELECTRIC LINES

Oregon Electric Will Gridiron Whole Willamette Valley.

Build 301 Miles of New Roads—Capitalization Increased to \$10,000,000 to Carry On Operation—Hillsboro to Tillamook—Work Already Commenced.

Portland, April 23.—To gridiron the Willamette Valley with electric lines is the avowed purpose of the Oregon Electric Railway Company. The original capitalization of \$2,500,000 was increased yesterday to \$10,000,000. Extensions to the system were authorized aggregating 301 miles. Work will be commenced on the first of these lines this morning.

Stockholders and directors of the company met in the headquarters in the Corbett building yesterday morning and authorized the filing of new articles of incorporation.

The following new lines were authorized by the directors of the company at yesterday's meeting: Salem to Albany, 18 miles; Garden Home to Hillsboro, 12 miles; Hillsboro to Tillamook, 57 miles; Tigardville to Eugene, 125 miles; Salem to Mill City, 54 miles; and Albany to Cascadia, 35 miles. Total mileage, 301. With the 50 miles already constructed by the company between Portland and Salem, the construction of the new lines just authorized will give the Oregon Electric 351 miles of standard gauge railroad in the state.

William S. Barstow & Co., the engineering firm which builds the lines of the Oregon Electric, has assembled construction materials and will begin work this morning on the Garden Home-Hillsboro line. Upon its completion, attention will be turned to building from Salem to Albany. It is likely that at least three years will be required to complete the system of new lines mapped out by the stockholders and directors of the company at yesterday's meetings.

All the new lines planned will be uniform with the Portland-Salem line, which is standard steam railroad construction throughout.

Moffatt & White, 5 Nassau street, New York city, are managers of a syndicate that is supplying the capital for the Oregon Electric operations in this state. The executive committee is made up of the following New York capitalists: A. C. Bedford, George Barclay Moffatt and William A. White.

PRESIDENT SIGNS BILL.

Employers' Liability Law Is Now in Effect

Washington, April 23.—President Roosevelt today signed the employers' liability bill upon receiving an opinion from Attorney-General Bonaparte that the measure was constitutional.

The bill makes railroads or other common carriers, while engaged in interstate commerce, liable for the injury or death of an employee if the injury or death results in whole or in part from the negligence of any of the officers, agents or employees of the railroad, or by any defect or insufficiency in equipment. This provision is made applicable to carriers in the territories, the District of Columbia, the Panama canal zone and other possessions of the United States.

It is provided that in any action brought under the provisions of the bill the injured employee shall not be held to have assumed the risk of his employment in any case where violation by the carrier of any statute enacted for safety of employees contributed to the injury or death of the employee. Any contract, rule, regulation or device to enable the carrier to exempt itself from liability under the act is rendered void by a specific declaration to that end.

Provision is made, however, that the carrier shall receive credit for any contribution made to the employee or his family in the form of insurance, relief, benefit or indemnity. An action for the recovery of damages must be commenced within two years from the date of the cause of suit.

Reveals Burns' Methods.

Washington, April 23.—The cross-examination of Woodford D. Harlan, formerly a clerk in the general land office, was the feature today in the Hyde-Benson-Diamond-Schneider land fraud trial. J. C. Campbell, of San Francisco, attorney for Benson, drew from the government's witness the fact that he often told Benson falsehoods in order to secure evidence for the government. Harlan admitted that under the instructions of Secret Service Agent Burns he practically demanded money from Benson, instead of Benson offering to bribe.

Churchill for Home Rule.

Dublin, April 23.—The Nationalists are satisfied with the assurances given by Winston Spencer Churchill at Manchester last night with regard to the attitude of the Liberal party in the matter of Irish self-government, and John E. Redmond announced at a meeting of the United Irish League today that he had been decided to support Mr. Churchill, and that recommendations to this effect would be sent to the Irish voters at Manchester.

Demand Thaw's Release.

Newburg, N. Y., April 23.—Council for Harry K. Thaw today served an order of the supreme court upon the superintendent of the Mattawan Insane Asylum to permit Thaw to sign an application for a writ of habeas corpus. Thaw will be brought into court for a hearing on the question of his sanity.

BANKER ROSS CONVICTED.

Guilty of Appropriating State Money to Private Use.

Salem, Ore., April 24.—Guilty of converting to his own use \$288,000 of state school lands, was the verdict rendered against J. Thorburn Ross by a Marion county jury yesterday afternoon. The jury was out an hour and ten minutes.

From what can be learned it appears that the jury took four ballots the first showing nine for conviction and three for acquittal.

Sentence will be imposed by Judge Burnett on Monday morning. The penalty provided by law is imprisonment in the penitentiary for from one to fifteen years and by fine of double the amount of the defalcation.

The case will, of course, be appealed to the supreme court, when the case will be tried practically anew, for the defense objected to nearly all the evidence, saved exceptions, and questioned the ruling of the trial court on all points of law that go to the foundation of the case. Attorney McCannan declined to discuss the verdict, but was very plainly deeply disappointed.

TRY TO KILL GRAFTER.

Ex-Supervisor Gallagher Blown Up by Bomb

Oakland, Cal., April 24.—What is believed by the police to have been an attempt to assassinate James L. Gallagher, one of the main witnesses for the prosecution in the San Francisco graft cases, was made shortly after 7 o'clock tonight at the home of William H. Scherck, Gallagher's brother-in-law, East Twentieth street and Nineteenth avenue, East Oakland, when a huge bomb placed on the porch exploded and tore away the whole front of the house. Gallagher was up stairs with his wife at the time, and Mr. Scherck was in a rear room with his wife and four children and Dr. Guy Brown.

All escaped but one boy, who was hit in the neck by a flying missile. That none was killed was little short of a miracle. Gallagher's hat was pierced by a splinter, and taken away as a souvenir. The house was completely wrecked. The report was heard all over Oakland and many windows in the neighborhood were broken. A post belonging to the porch was hurled 100 feet away.

Valuable clues to the perpetrators of the crime were gained today through the finding of a silk handkerchief in which it is supposed the infernal machine was wrapped. In a search of the debris this morning detectives located some wire and fuse and caps, which would indicate, according to Chief Wilson, that a bomb of some sort had been used.

Honey Had Warned Him.

San Francisco, April 24.—The prosecution will certainly make a most thorough investigation of the dastardly attempt to kill one of the most important witnesses for the state in the bribery graft cases, said Assistant District Attorney Francis J. Heney this morning to the Associated Press representative.

Mr. Heney refused to state whether or not he had any evidence pointing to the perpetrators.

"I am satisfied that it was not the work of a fanatic or crank," declared the Assistant District Attorney. "Neither did the attempt upon Gallagher's life surprise me. I warned him more than three months ago that if he was not careful 'they would get him,' and at the time urged him to move from Oakland, telling him his home might be blown up. Aside from this I have nothing to say at present."

Tornado in Nebraska.

Paris, Neb., April 24.—About 6 o'clock this afternoon a tornado destroyed the eastern portion of Deport, a town 20 miles southeast of Paris, killing W. R. Isbell, a druggist, and wounding several others. The Isbell family was at supper when the storm came.

Practically all the residences on the east side of town were destroyed, at least 25 or 30 being scattered over the country in fragments. Oak Grove a town east of Clarksburg, on the Texas & Pacific railroad, is reported almost destroyed, many houses being demolished, but without fatalities as far as learned. The path of the storm was several hundred yards wide.

Revive Coaching in England.

London, April 24.—Alfred G. Vanderbilt, whose effort to revive interest in coaching in England has been so sympathetically received, left London this morning on a series of trial trips over the Brighton road. He was accompanied by a small party of friends. A big crowd assembled outside the hotel, where the start was made, and gave the American a hearty send-off, while the police stopped traffic in Piccadilly in order to allow the coach to gain a free passage. Mr. Vanderbilt will make his first regular trip on May 4.

Brigands Gain Strength.

St. Petersburg, April 24.—The situation on the Persian frontier is considered here to be steadily becoming more serious, despite the check to the Persian brigands on April 20, when the Russian forces drove the bandits back with heavy losses. The rising is gradually spreading, the other mountaineers now flocking to the assistance of the Shaksestan and Beglavin tribes, against whom the operations are being conducted.

Machinists Strike.

Marshalltown, Ia., April 24.—Machinists in the various shops of the Iowa Central railway struck today, together with helpers and apprentices. A reduction of 4 cents an hour in the wage schedule caused the strike.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SIXTIETH SESSION OF NATIONAL LAWMAKERS

Saturday, April 25

Washington, April 25.—Another day was spent by the senate in considering the amendment to the naval appropriation bill, but a vote was not reached at the close of the discussion, which was participated in by a dozen senators. Hale secured an agreement for a vote before adjournment on Monday.

A canvass of the senate made during the day indicated that the fourship program will be defeated and that the debate has changed several votes. Much of the session today was devoted to the improbability of war being forced upon the United States. Beveridge and Piles were sharply criticized by Aldrich, Perkins and McCumber for their statements of yesterday, and several heated colloquies occurred. Beveridge will reply on Monday.

Washington, April 25.—The actual investigation of the wood-pulp and printer-paper question, involving in prospect an examination into the affairs of the paper trust to determine whether or not it is as alleged by the American Newspaper Publishers' Association a combination in restraint of trade and maintaining a monopoly of the print-paper supply in the United States, was begun today by the select committee appointed by Speaker Cannon, whose chairman is Representative James R. Mann, of Illinois, and the other members of which are Bannan of Ohio, Stanford of Kentucky, Pannan of Ohio, Stafford of Wisconsin, Shinn of Tennessee and Ryan of New York.

Friday, April 24

Washington, April 24.—Arguments in favor of the president's program for four battleships consumed most of the session of the senate today. Piles, of Washington, opened the debate, declaring that the Asiatic situation affecting the Pacific coast was a menace to that section, as war clouds might quickly rise there over some clash between Americans and the Japanese. He wanted a fleet kept in the Pacific.

This, he declared, was a measure of peace, and not of war. He came, he said, from the section of the country that must be the storm center of any conflict in the Pacific ocean. The people of the Pacific were in favor of four battleships. He sent to the vice president's desk a statement of a vote of 162 editors attending a meeting in New York, which, he said, showed 125 in favor of the four battleships and the president's policy for naval expansion.

While he had never been one of those who feared war, it should not be denied, he said, that there was on the Pacific coast a peculiar condition, and the time was coming when the people of this country would have to face that condition. The Pacific coast, he added, had by its opportunities attracted many Asiatics, who had been reared in a different way from the people of the United States. There was a possibility of a clash between these people and those of the Pacific coast.

Washington, April 24.—The business of the house proceeded today at a rapid pace, despite the fact that the democrats forced six rollcalls. Over 1000 pension bills were put through, the largest batch of the session. A bill was passed providing for the protection of life on navigable waters during regattas and marine parades. There also was discussed at length the Burleson resolution demanding the report of the Commissioner of Corporations on the cause of fluctuations in cotton. The vote on that measure will be taken tomorrow.

Thursday, April 23

Washington, April 23.—After one of the hardest fought legislative battles of this session, the house of representatives, late this afternoon by a vote of 247 to 8, passed the Fulton land-grant resolution without amendment. Prior to the vote on final passage Fordney's amendment was voted down, 43 to 227. The resolution will go to the president by the end of the week and will promptly be signed by him.

Immediately thereafter steps will be taken to initiate suit against the Oregon & California Railroad Company to secure forfeiture of the unsold portion of its grant. For the time being, it is understood, no proceedings will be undertaken against lumber companies and other purchasers from the railroad.

Washington, April 23.—As the senate was about to conclude consideration of the naval appropriation bill today, Senator Piles, of Washington, proposed an amendment increasing from two to four the number of new battleships to be authorized.

A spirited debate occurred on the amendment for the restriction of the purchase of materials for the construction of the battleships and submarine boats to those of domestic manufacture. Amendments to remove that restriction from the bill were defeated, Hale estimating that since the investigation of the steel trust some years ago the price of steel armor had been reduced from \$550 and \$600 per ton to \$416 per ton.

Wednesday, April 22

Washington, April 22.—President Roosevelt will veto the naval appropriation bill, should the senate, as did the house, fail to make any appropriation for the two battleships which are authorized in the measure. The prompt announcement of this

Funds for Draining Swamps.

Washington, April 23.—The senate gave further consideration to the bill devoting about \$5,600,000 received from the sale of public lands in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin, to the construction of drainage works in those states.

During the day the naval and agricultural appropriation bills were reported to the senate.

fect to senate leaders today is regarded as responsible for the announcement by Hale that he would propose an amendment appropriating \$7,000,000 toward the construction of those ships.

The president stated his position on this point with unusual emphasis and suddenness today, upon learning that the bill as passed by the house was simply a "paper" provision for naval increase. Authorization of the ships was made, but no money carried to make the provision effective. Such legislation as this, the president made known to his numerous congressional callers, was a travesty as to effectiveness, as well as bearing all the earmarks of legislative legerdemain intended to make ridiculous his campaign for the greater navy.

That the president's quick and vigorous action is to be effective is evidenced by the action of Chairman Hale, of the senate naval committee, in announcing that at the proper time he will propose the \$7,000,000 amendment.

Tuesday, April 21

Washington, April 21.—Against a united democracy, which denied the sincerity of the republican majority, the house today, by a vote of 184 to 110, passed Speaker Cannon's resolution providing for an investigation of the paper trust and, in pursuance of its provisions, the speaker announced as the committee of six who will conduct the investigation Mann (Ill.), Miller (Kan.), Stafford (W. Va.), Bannan (O.), Sims (Tenn.) and Ryan (N. Y.).

Fitzgerald created laughter by referring to the speaker as "the whole business" in the house. He said that he had told some people, who had written him about wood pulp, not to waste their time on the white house, as the president had in a degree recently lost his influence with the house.

"We will stand by the president to the last ditch," he humorously remarked, "and I expect we and the president will go into the last ditch together."

The McCall campaign publicity bill today was unanimously recommended to the house for passage by the committee on election of president, vice president and representatives in congress. Though introduced by a republican, it had the undivided support of the democratic members of the committee, and of national publicity law association.

Washington, April 21.—The reported purpose of the president to send the fleet of battleships now on the Pacific coast around the world, was the basis of a discussion in the senate today when the naval appropriation bill was taken up for consideration.

Defending the policy of sending the fleet of battleships to the Pacific ocean, Senator Lodge said great good is already resulting from the long cruise and is teaching the fleet how to maintain itself away from shipyards, by making repairs through its own mechanics on board.

Monday, April 20

Washington, April 20.—It is the present intention of the house leaders to bring up the Fulton land-grant resolution for consideration in the house tomorrow or Wednesday, and the belief is general that it will pass without amendment. It is now evident that the democratic filibuster will continue to the end of the session, but inquiry discloses that the democrats are generally favorable to the resolution and will not undertake to make it a party measure.

Representative Fordney, the leading representative of the lumbermen, promised last week to withdraw his objection to the resolution, but today he declared his purpose of making a fight, as he said the house committee had decided to table Mondell's resolution. The committee has reached no such determination, but intends to report this resolution so that the house can give it fair consideration. If Fordney opposes the Fulton resolution on this ground he will get little support.

Washington, April 20.—After consideration of less than two hours the senate committee on naval affairs today reported the naval appropriation bill to the senate. It carries \$111,546,549, an increase of \$7,579,931 over the amount passed by the house.

On the battleship construction program the senate committee adopted the policy of the house, making no change in the provision for two vessels. The president's message advocating the construction of four battleships was not considered, as it was known that the committee was unanimously opposed to that program.

Increase of 29 per cent in the pay of the officers of the navy and civilian professors and instructors at the Naval Academy, and of 10 per cent in the pay of the enlisted force, \$3,553,969; increase of the pay of professors of mathematics, constructors' corps and civil engineers' corps to equal that of officers of the same rank in the medical and pay corps, \$16,450.

For public works additional appropriations were made as follows: Norfolk, Va., \$209,050; Puget Sound, \$140,000; Pearl Harbor, Hawaiian Islands, for naval station and dry-dock, \$1,000,000.

Violated Pure Food Law.

Washington, April 22.—As a result of the first convention under the pure food and drugs law, N. Harper, president of the Washington Chamber of Commerce, a drug manufacturer, and one of the best known business men of this city, was today sentenced by Judge Kimball in the police court to pay a fine of \$500 on one count and \$200 on another count of the indictment recently returned against him for manufacturing and selling a mislabeled compound.

PRaises AMERICAN NAVY.

Great Englishman Declares It Second Only to England's.

Boston, April 22.—The interview published here today, Sir William Henry White, who was for nearly 20 years the reputed designer of all British warships, comments on recent criticisms of the American navy. After declaring that the criticisms are unfounded in fact, and supplementing this declaration by a long and technical explanation, Sir William says:

"There is one thing more that I would like to say, and I think it is vital. I have known the American navy from the start. It is not generally known that the modern American navy started with the purchase of two of my designs from the Armstrongs. That was in 1855. From these designs the Charleston and the Baltimore were built.

"The first thing I want to say in this connection is that you have naval architects, in my judgment, as capable as any in the world. The second thing I want to say is that your shipbuilding yards are quite equal to any we have in their equipment and management and all that. "And the result is that, in my opinion, you have a fleet that, ship for ship, comparing the ships designed at a given date—and that is the only fair comparison—is equal to anything the world contains. Next to the British navy I think your navy is the best in the world."

GUNBOAT TO VENEZUELA.

Bubonic Plague Makes Appearance at La Guayra.

Washington, April 22.—An American war vessel will be sent to Venezuelan waters, but her mission is to be entirely peaceful. The closing of the port of La Guayra because of the existence of what is believed to be bubonic plague there, has made it necessary for the state department to have at hand some vessel to be used as a despatch boat by Minister Russell in sending messages to Curacao or Port of Spain, Trinidad, and for taking cablegrams to him from the state department.

Under today's date Mr. Russell cabled the state department regarding the situation at La Guayra, and expressing the general belief that the disease there is the plague. He says the Venezuelan government today officially announced the existence of a suspicious contagious disease at La Guayra, the nature of which has not been determined. No steamers are touching at the port, which has been quarantined for 15 days, and the traffic is suspended on the railway.

FUN FOR THE SAILORS.

Los Angeles Furnishes Entertainment for Officers and Men.

Los Angeles, Cal., April 22.—Los Angeles continued today its long program of entertainment for the sailors and officers of the American battleship fleet. Thirty-five hundred bluejackets were in the landing parties which came ashore at the various ports where the four divisions of the fleet were anchored, and they pitched right into the fun provided for them with the enthusiasm of boys out of school.

The sailors again were the guests of the city, and the features of the day's entertainment were the same as on yesterday—boxing bouts, bar-becues, wild west shows, dancing, shooting the chutes and other forms of amusement occupying the time from early morning until late at night. The sailors' frolics are really the most interesting feature of the fleet's stay at Los Angeles. Thousands of people go each day to Chutes park and Agricultural park to see the men at play.

For the officers there were a number of social events, including luncheon to the higher officers by General Adna R. Chaffee at the California club. Tonight the Chamber of Commerce at Dedondo, where the fleet division is anchored, gave a banquet at the Hotel Redondo in honor of Rear Admiral Charles S. Sperry and other officers of the division. The entire city, overlooking the sea was illuminated.

J. H. D. Fears Kidnapers.

New York, April 22.—Six private detectives acted as a bodyguard for John D. Rockefeller yesterday when he walked with his two grandchildren, Fowler and Muriel McCormick, from his home to the Fifth Avenue Baptist church to attend the Easter service. The guard was maintained on the return from church. In view of these extra precautions, it was thought that the black hand threats against the children recently received by Mrs. Harold McCormick, their mother, had been renewed, but no information could be obtained.

Japanese Honor American.

Tokio, April 22.—A most interesting banquet was held Monday in commemoration of the victorious service rendered Japan by the late David M. Gray, the American who, from 1873 to 1877, served the government as adviser in educational matters and practically laid the foundation of the modern system now used in Japan's education. The banquet was attended by 100 scholars, professors and pioneer educators and was a brilliant affair.

Continues to Improve.

Paso Robles, Cal., April 22.—"Rear Admiral Evans spent a very good night," said Surgeon McDonald this morning. "He slept well, ate well this morning, and his digestion is improving. I am certain that the course of treatment which is being followed out here at the hot springs is doing him a world of good."

British ex-Premier Dead.

London, April 22.—Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman, ex-British premier, died at 10:40 o'clock this morning at his official residence, No. 10 Downing street. The end was peaceful.

RUSSIAN TROOPS CAUGHT IN TRAP

Surrounded by Hordes of Rebellious Kurds, Well Armed.

Floods Cut Off Assistance—Grand Duke Nicholas Going South to Examine Situation Personally—Troops and Supplies Pouring Into Trnna-Caucasia.

St. Petersburg, April 21.—The latest news received here of the boundary war—that a Russian detachment had been penned in and was calling for reinforcements—has aroused the anxiety of the foreign office. It shows that the entire population of this district, composed of well armed and warlike tribes, is rushing to the support of the brigands who have been attacked. The situation may become still more serious if the Kurdish bandits, who inhabit Russian territory, encouraged by the retirement of the Russian troops, join their Persian kindred and threaten the Russian communications.

Associated Press dispatches setting forth the grave situation of the Russian detachment in Persia are fully confirmed tonight by official reports. Grand Duke Nicholas Nicolaievitch departed quietly from here today for the Crimea, traveling incognito in a reserved compartment of an ordinary coach, instead of by private car. The trip ostensibly is for personal reasons, but it is said, will be of short duration, but the Grand Duke's departure just previous to the Easter festivities and to the marriage of Grand Duchess Marie Pavlana to Prince Wilhelm, of Sweden, is considered an indication of a more important object.

Despite diplomatic denials, Russia continues to forward reinforcements and munitions of war to the Caucasus. An American traveler returning from that territory recently says that he saw train after train loaded with soldiers, proceeding in a southerly direction, and the railroad to Kars is so swamped with military stores that it is unable to accept private freight.

TRAIN WRECK KILLS 41.

Fire Consumes Bodies of Victims—Injured Wait for Hours.

Melbourne, Australia, April 21.—Two trains from Ballarat and Bendigo, respectively, collided late last night at Braybrook Junction, about eight miles from Melbourne, 41 persons being killed and 60 injured. The Bendigo train, with two heavy engines, crashed into the rear of the Ballarat train. Five cars of the latter train were wrecked. The wreckage took fire and was almost completely consumed. Many of the bodies were unrecognizable when recovered. The Bendigo train suffered but little damage, but the two engines were piled on top of the rear coaches of the other train. Terrible scenes followed, many of the injured being caught in the wreckage, and were with difficulty rescued. It was a long time before doctors and nurses arrived on the scene and in consequence intense suffering prevailed among the injured.

SULTAN YIELDS.

Allows Establishment of Italian Post-offices and Settlements.

Rome, April 21.—The threatened trouble between Italy and Turkey apparently has ended as a tempest in a teacup and, for the present at least, there will be no demonstration by Italian warships in Turkish waters. Indeed, it now seems likely that the incident will produce a better feeling between Constantinople and Rome, leading to an agreement which the two countries on many differences which heretofore have been the cause of not a little friction.

The Turkish government has given its permission to Italy to establish postoffices in the Turkish cities where the other powers may have like institutions, and in like manner has met the Italian demands with regard to other questions that have been subjects of dispute.

Sheriff Sued for Reward.

Spokane, April 21.—A novel suit for \$12,000 from sheriff Shoemaker, of Helena, Mont., has been started by Detectives McPhee, Macdonald and Briley of Spokane. These detectives captured Ed Frankhauser and Chas. McDonald, who held up the Oriental Limited train at Rondo, Mont., last September, securing \$40,000. The robbers escaped from the Helena jail a few weeks ago and the detectives hold that Sheriff Shoemaker, having thus caused them to lose the reward offered, should pay it himself, and are suing him.

Favors Organic Union.

Saratoga, N. Y., April 21.—The Troy conference of the Methodist Episcopal church adopted a memorial to the general conference, requesting that body to take some action looking toward organic union of the Methodist Episcopal, Free Methodist, Wesleyan Methodist and other Methodist bodies. The conference decided to take no action on a memorial asking that the paragraph forbidding dissent, card-playing and theater-going be stricken from the book.

Disarmize Moros.

Manila, April 21.—Detachments of the Twenty-third and Twenty-fifth Infantry, with the constabulary and armed branches assisting, under command of Major Finley, are engaged in disarming the Moros on Basilan Island. The troops are distributed around the coast, co-operating in a series of closing-in movements and seizing all arms.