

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

ADVANCE IN RATES.

Old Equipment Will Cause Railroads to Seek Relief From Shippers.

Washington, Dec. 5.—Shortage of rolling stock caused by the failure of the railroads to keep up their equipment during the recent financial stringency will result in sweeping advances in rates, according to the statement of members of the interstate commerce commission.

"I have no doubt," said one of the commissioners in explaining the situation, "that an attempt will be made all along the line to push up rates in every possible way. The railroads have cultivated the impression that they are not receiving sufficient money to maintain their efficiency and to give good service and pay their stockholders anything."

As soon as business revives the railroads all over the country are going to find themselves short of equipment. For two years they have bought no rolling stock to speak of and they have not kept their old equipment in repair.

"The railroad managers will soon begin announcing that they must get more money to lay tracks and buy cars and that to advance rates is the only means of getting the needed cash. Whether they will be permitted to enforce their higher rates is something the commission cannot pass on now."

"Already the advances have begun. The commission has before it one case which involves an advance in rates in all the southeast. There is another case which involves advances in the southwest."

MAKES NEW RECORD.

Government Printing Office Did Much Campaign Work.

Washington, Dec. 3.—The government printing office was an important factor in the recent presidential campaign. This institution turned out for the Republican and Democratic parties 7,418,700 copies of speeches delivered in congress, surpassing all previous records by 3,000,000 copies.

The total weight of campaign speeches printed since the beginning of the Sixtieth congress exceeds 400,000 pounds, or about 44 carloads. The printed sheets would completely cover 45 square acres of ground, and if each page could be laid end to end a bicycle track 947 miles long could be obtained.

The number of words contained in this year's run of speeches has been roughly estimated at 230 billion. With the newspaper calculation of four readers to each copy, this would require the assimilation of nearly a trillion words.

The printing of speeches in the government printing office for members of the senate and house of representatives has been reduced to an exact science through years of experience. The printing is paid for by the member of congress drawing the requisition, but the mailing is done by frank, at public expense.

CENSUS COST \$12,930,000.

Figures Practically Same as Enumeration of 1900.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The cost of taking the next census, as estimated by Director North in his annual report just issued, will be \$12,930,000. The director points with pride to the fact that this sum is but \$410,000 more than the cost of the census of 1900, and says this will be accomplished "in spite of the enormous growth in the population during the last decade, a growth largely contributed to by foreign-born people, who do not speak English, a class which it is very expensive and very difficult to enumerate. If the work can be done for this sum it will be the first time in the history of the nation that census has been taken and completed at practically the same cost as the prior enumeration."

The increase, he says, from decade to decade heretofore, has been about 50 per cent. The enormous saving, says the director, will be effected by reason of existence of the permanent census bureau and institution of the bureau's own tabulating machines.

Want Free Canada Barley.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Witnesses asking for a reduction of the tariff on malted barley for the purpose of making whisky, stated that the change would not affect the industry in America. Another witness appeared and asked that the tariff on cocoa fiber be retained as at present. Charles L. Feldman, representing the Buffalo Malters' association, asked that barley be admitted free from Canada. He made a strong argument, in which he said the admission of barley would not hurt the western farmers.

Works for Coast.

Washington, Dec. 3.—The construction of six torpedo boats by Pacific coast builders has been suggested to the president by Victor H. Metcalf, former secretary of the navy, who is preparing to leave Washington. Mr. Metcalf suggested that six of the eight mosquito craft should be built or delivered on the Pacific coast. Delivery on the Pacific coast would handicap Eastern builders so much that they would be compelled to relinquish the contract.

Fleet on Way to Panama.

Washington, Dec. 9.—Secretary of the Navy Newberry tonight received advice from Warren R. Rich, United States customs inspector at Salina Cruz, Mex., that the armored cruiser fleet was southbound at 3 P. M., New York time, bound for La Union, San Salvador, and later for Panama. The fleet sailed December 1 from Magdalena bay, after target practice.

Bonds in Great Demand.

Washington, Dec. 9.—Announcement was made today by Secretary of the Treasury George B. Cortelyou that 831 bids have been received on the \$30,000,000 issue of Panama bonds. The bids aggregate \$102,808,800. The 150 successful bidders will purchase the bonds at prices ranging from \$102.28 to \$105.

Buys Panama Transports.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Secretary of War Wright today concluded the purchase of the ships Shawmut and Tremont, belonging to the Boston Towboat & Transportation company. The vessels are now at Seattle, and will be used as transports in the Panama canal service.

Two-Cent Postage to Germany.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Postmaster General George Von L. Meyer today announced the establishment of 2 cent postage between the United States and Germany on letters going by direct sea routes. Those going by way of France and England must carry 5 cents postage.

Keefe Commissioner of Immigration.

Washington, Dec. 4.—Daniel J. Keefe, of Detroit, president of the Longshoremen's union, has accepted the position of commissioner general of immigration.

Neill to Be Reappointed.

Washington, Dec. 9.—President Roosevelt has informed Labor Commissioner Neill that he will reappoint him.

LIVES BEYOND INCOME.

England Must Appropriate Big Sum for Stronger Navy.

London, Dec. 7.—Estimating that by the beginning of the next fiscal year in March, England will be living \$100,000,000 annually beyond its income, the administration is gradually breaking the news to the country that there must be a heavy increase in taxation shortly.

Forced by circumstances to declare or a stronger navy, the cabinet has undertaken a program involving \$100,000,000 unanticipated expenditures for ships.

To escape a quarrel with the various religious denominations over sectarian education in the public schools, financial concessions have been necessitated to the extent of \$7,500,000. Old age pensions, payment of which will begin on January 1, will cost at least \$35,000,000, and relief of the country's idle will foot up \$30,000,000.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Lloyd George figures on making up the deficit as follows: Income tax increase \$20,000,000; increased taxation of urban land, \$20,000,000; increased death duties, \$5,000,000; increased cost of liquor license, \$25,000,000; diversions from payments to sinking fund maintained for gradual payment of national debt, \$32,000,000.

Hints of the necessity for increased taxes have been thrown out from time to time for months past in speeches by the various cabinet members and in the Liberal party newspapers. A plain statement of the situation has finally been made by the chancellor, accompanied by an outline of his plan for a remedy.

REBEL AT ROUTING RULE.

Chicago Shippers Opposed to New Regulation of Railroads.

Chicago, Dec. 7.—The Tribune yesterday printed the following news article on the new railroad traffic rule: Shippers of Chicago and other cities are considerably exercised over what they regard as another attempt on the part of the railroads to deprive them of the right to specify the routing of freight shipments beyond the line of the initial carrier to which the freight is delivered.

This question has been the subject of a long-standing controversy between the shippers and the roads. Its renewal at the present time is caused by a rule in the new west-bound transcontinental tariff, effective in January. This provides: "The rates therein are subject to the absolute and unequalled right of the initial carrier to determine the routing of freight beyond its own lines."

If enforced strictly this rule is regarded as apparently in conflict with the administrative ruling of the interstate commerce commission.

Railroad officials said yesterday that under the commission's ruling the rule could not be enforced literally, but the fact remains that it is stated in black and white in the tariff and the shippers are wondering how far the roads will go when the tariff takes effect.

The National Industrial Traffic league, which since its organization has insisted on the right of the shipper to control the routing, is now preparing an amendment to the Hepburn law securing this right, which will be presented to congress at the coming session.

DEATH LIST GROWS.

Storm on Upper Atlantic Coast Gets Many Victims.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 7.—More than 30 seamen have lost their lives off the upper North Atlantic coast during the last few days as the result of a storm of unprecedented severity. The reckoning, itemized as accurately as the meager reports will allow, follows:

December 3.—Seventeen members of the crews of three fishing schooners drowned off the New Foundland coast.

December 4.—Twenty-eight members of the crew of the schooner Soo City, which is believed to have sunk in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

December 5.—Seven members of the crew of the barge No. 101, which went down off the coast of Nova Scotia.

Storrow May Succeed Eliot.

Boston, Dec. 7.—A definite rumor was circulated among Harvard men in State street yesterday that the presidency of Harvard college, after Charles W. Eliot leaves on May 1 next, had been offered to James J. Storrow, president of the Boston school board, and a member of the banking firm of Lee, Higginson & Co. The rumor was that the position had been tendered unofficially to Mr. Storrow by the Harvard overseers. When Mr. Storrow himself was asked about it, he said: "This is news to me. That is all I can say."

Miles to Tour Africa.

Paris, Dec. 7.—General Nelson A. Miles leaves Paris in a few days for an extended automobile tour of Algeria and Tunisia, French possessions in Africa, and hopes to be able to rush on into Morocco, if the health of his traveling companion, Colgate Hoyt, will permit the journey. Later General Miles will gratify a long-cherished wish to visit Corsica from one end to the other and then sail from Genoa for home in the spring.

Chicago's Official Santa Claus.

Chicago, Dec. 7.—Postmaster Campbell yesterday received from the postmaster general an official letter that, in effect, makes John M. Hubbard, assistant postmaster, official Santa Claus of Chicago. The letter contained a letter addressed to Santa Claus, care the postmaster general. Local merchants have made arrangements to have all these letters forwarded to them, with their guarantee that every one will be answered.

CONGRESS CONVENES

Adjourn Soon Out of Respect for Deceased Members.

HUNDREDS OF VISITORS PRESENT

Practically No Business Transacted at Opening of Second Session of Sixtieth Congress.

Washington, Dec. 8.—After being in session an hour, half of the time being consumed by a roll call, the house of representatives, which met at noon yesterday for the second session of the 60th congress, adjourned out of respect to the memory of several of its own members and of Senator Allison, all of whom died during the recess. For an hour or more preceding the formal calling of the body to order, the galleries were packed to their fullest capacity. Many hundreds sat in the aisles, while long lines patiently waited outside the gallery doors, hoping to find an opportunity to get inside.

On the floor the members mingled with each other and extended hearty greetings. Speaker Cannon, Representative Sherman, of New York, the vice president-elect, and Champ Clark, of Missouri, the successor of John Sharp Williams, minority leader, received ovations.

The most important action of the house was the passage by unanimous consent of a resolution authorizing the committee on ways and means in its tariff hearings to subpoena witnesses and to call for books and papers. A number of bills of public interest were introduced.

Washington, Dec. 8.—There was a pall of sadness over the senate when it convened for the second session of the 60th congress, which was due to the absence of the late Senator William H. Allison, of Iowa, who died last August, after a service of more than 35 years in that body.

The assemblage was a brilliant one. Eighty-two of the members were present, and the galleries were filled with representatives of the official and social life of the capital. Besides the wives and daughters of senators, who formed a large company in the private gallery, James Bryce, the British ambassador to the United States; Tong Shoa Yi, special envoy of the Chinese empire; Prince Tsai Fu and others of his suite occupied seats in the reservation set aside for the diplomatic corps. The procedure in the opening of the new session was simple and dignified, following a long established precedent.

Senator Dooliver announced the death of the late Senator Allison, of Iowa, and resolutions expressing the profound sorrow of the senate over his bereavement were adopted. As a further mark of respect to his memory the senate, after a session lasting but 15 minutes, adjourned for the day.

PORTLAND BANK ROBBED.

Three Men Hold Up President and Secure \$17,000.

Portland, Dec. 8.—Three unmasked men held up and robbed the East Side bank, southeast corner of Grand avenue and East Washington street, at 5:45 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Seventeen thousand dollars in gold, silver and currency was the plunder claimed by the robbers. This they gathered in two big sacks and ran out of the bank, turning eastward and staggering under the weight of the loot. H. H. Newhall, president of the bank, and Roger Newhall, his son, fired six shots after them, but without effect. Up to a late hour the small army of detectives, deputy sheriffs and secret service agents at work on the case had no definite clew, although many theories were being worked out and many rumors run down.

Just two minutes were required to complete a robbery that has few precedents for desperation and daring. Entering the bank in the heart of the East Side business district, at an hour when hundreds of people were on the streets, the leader and most determined of the three men, at pistol point forced Mr. Newhall and his son, who is the cashier, to retire, their hands up, into Mr. Newhall's private office. This done two men who were waiting outside jumped inside the swinging door, and while one stood with a cocked revolver watching the entrance, the other held sacks into which the leader dumped the money from the counter and cash tills. They left \$300 in silver half-dollars, and did not go into the vault, which was open, evidently realizing that they had all they could carry away.

Simon Would Be President.

Port Au Prince, Dec. 8.—The quick establishment of a peace pact between General Simon, leader of the Haytian revolutionary army, and General Fouchard, the latest presidential candidate, is taken to mean that Simon himself wants the position at the head of the Haytian affairs, and intends to see that nothing interferes with his ambition. General Fouchard arrived here yesterday. It is rumored that he is out of the race for the presidency.

Six Jurors Are Secured.

San Francisco, Dec. 8.—Six jurors were secured yesterday in the trial of L. N. Chang, the Korean charged with the murder of Durham White Stevens, the American adviser to the Korean emperor, who was killed on March 23 last at the entrance to the Ferry building.

COSGROVE CANNOT LIVE.

Condition of Washington's Governor-Elect Becomes More Serious.

Paso Robles, Cal., Dec. 4.—Governor-elect Cosgrove's condition has become more serious. An operation has been performed by Drs. Dresser and Sawyer. Dr. Dresser says: "I don't think he can hold out two weeks longer." A specialist of Berkeley is here on the case and said: "Chronic disease is getting him. Even if he survives for some time, he will certainly not be able to return to his home state for inauguration as governor."

After a consultation the specialist said that he thought everything was being done for the governor and approved the course of treatment, and it was decided to continue the course as heretofore.

Paso Robles, Hot Springs, Cal., Dec. 4.—Governor-elect Cosgrove of Washington was reported late last night to be somewhat improved. Dr. F. G. Reinhardt, of the University of California, was in consultation yesterday with Dr. Dresser, the attending physician, regarding Mr. Cosgrove's condition and approved the course of treatment that is being administered to him. Dr. Dresser said shortly before midnight that the patient was resting well and that he had appeared to be somewhat stronger. The report that the Governor-elect had undergone an operation yesterday is unfounded.

TRY TO LOCATE MONEY.

Prosecution in Ruef Trial Trying to Prove Bribery.

San Francisco, Dec. 4.—In the Ruef bribery trial yesterday the prosecution endeavored to show by the testimony of Adam Dahler, acting treasurer of the United Railroads, that the \$200,000 drawn by Tracy L. Ford from the mint was never turned over to the company. Mr. Dahler said that he retained all the gold coming in and deposited all currency and checks. He said that after the graft inquiry had begun in 1906, George E. Starr, the company's treasurer, went east with a number of vouchers and books to be expended.

George Wilcutt, secretary of the United Railroads, testified regarding the books in his charge. The proposed introduction of a letter which Wilcutt said he had at his office, and which is supposed to contain some reference to the \$200,000 drawn by Ford, led to a wordy clash between attorneys.

William M. Abbott, assistant counsel for the United Railroads, was called, but on advice of his counsel refused to testify on the ground that he was under indictment in connection with the trolley franchise matter. Judge Lawlor overruled the objections and compelled him to testify. He then related the incident of his trip to the mint with Ford, when the latter obtained one of the installments of the \$200,000 made payable to the order of Patrick Calhoun.

PILLAGERS RULE CITY.

Troops Disperse Haytian Mob With Volley, Killing Twelve.

Port au Prince, Dec. 4.—For many hours during the night following the flight of Nord Alexis riot and pillage prevailed in Port au Prince. The populace, maddened by the spirit of revolt, turned from the skiff that carried the deposed president to the French training ship, Duguay Trouin, and gave full vent to its passions. It looted stores and residences, fought over the booty and was held in check only by an armed force hastily gathered together by General Fochard, which fired a volley into the mob and drove the rioters from street to street and finally into seclusion. Twelve persons were killed and many wounded before order was restored.

So serious did the situation become that a committee of public safety, composed of the most prominent military leaders, was organized. Scores of citizens were placed under arms to assist the loyal troops in patrolling the city and comparative tranquillity now reigns.

The American, French and German ministers decided early in the morning that they could trust in the arrangements made by the committee to maintain order, but they jointly gave notice that, if trouble occurred again, they would land forces from the warships.

Tiny Boats' Long Voyage.

Newport News, Va., Dec. 4.—A hazardous journey, the like of which has been undertaken heretofore only by the naval torpedo boat flotilla that accompanied the battleship squadron from the Atlantic to the Pacific, was begun here today when four small government mine planters, no bigger than tug, steamed from Hampton Roads at 4 o'clock this afternoon. Two of the tiny craft are destined for Seattle via Ciang Horn, while the others have been assigned to Manila and will proceed there via the Suez canal.

Sought Throughout Land.

Los Angeles, Dec. 4.—Theodore S. Lowe, formerly agent at a New York substation of the United States Express company, was arrested in a local cafe tonight on a charge of embezzlement, preferred by his former employers. He is accused of having appropriated \$450 of the company's funds three months ago. Officers throughout the country have sought him since. Lowe intimates that his people have money enough to settle the difficulty.

Fired by Incendiary.

Red Lodge, Mont., Dec. 4.—General Manager C. R. Claghorn, of the Northwestern Improvement company, who has made a thorough investigation of the cause which led to the great disaster on November 20, has come to the conclusion that the fire in stope No. 2 was of incendiary origin, and today offered a reward of \$2,500 for the arrest and conviction of the guilty party.

OUTLINES HIS POLICY

Taft Has Many Improvements He Would Inaugurate.

TARIFF REVISION COMES FIRST

President-Elect Intends to Reorganize Three Departments Dealing With Corporations—Improve Rivers.

Hot Springs, Va., Dec. 5.—The World is able to present here the principal legislative program of the Taft administration:

Tariff revision is the primary reason for the extra session that will be called immediately after March 4, 1909, but the next President sees no reason why, during that extra session, the Sherman anti-trust law should not be so amended that railroads may make rate agreements under the strict supervision of the interstate commerce commission. It is not likely that more subjects than the tariff and an amendment to the Sherman act will be named by Mr. Taft in calling the extra session, though he may decide later to mention all of the principal laws that he hopes to see enacted. These are:

1. Putting a limitation on the issuance of interstate bonds and stocks.
2. Authorizing railroads to make rate agreements which otherwise would be in violation of the anti-trust law, subject to the approval of the interstate commerce commission.
3. Defining particular cases in which temporary restraining orders may issue without notice, and prescribing proceedings limiting their operation to the very shortest day.
4. Such amendments to the law organizing the bureau of corporations as shall require certain large corporations doing an interstate business to submit to the scrutiny and examination of agents of the federal government.
5. Reorganizing the department of justice, the interstate commerce commission and the department of commerce and labor in respect to the jurisdiction exercised by them over interstate corporations, both railroads and others. It is Mr. Taft's idea that the three departments should work harmoniously, so that no one shall be going over ground covered by another and so that there shall be no conflict of authority. Ultimately cases handled by these departments must now go to the courts, but it is Mr. Taft's idea that a large number of cases can be disposed of finally and equitably by the departments under the right sort of law.
6. Reform in the monetary and banking systems of the country. This is recognized as one of the great problems before the new administration, but it is not expected that it will be taken up at the extra session.
7. Conservation of the natural resources of the country, including the Appalachian bill. The question of the constitutional power of the federal government in this matter is not yet clear. It can be said that Mr. Taft is in sympathy with the end to be accomplished, but that he will recommend no legislation until he is satisfied as to the exact length to which the federal government can go.
8. Improvements of rivers and harbors. The new administration is committed to an energetic policy of improvement, particularly of inland waterways. The Ohio river five-foot channel from Pittsburg to Cairo is to the front at present. It will cost \$61,000,000, and the next president favors the issuance of bonds to push the work.

BEGINS HOSTILE ACTION.

Dutch Warships Make Demonstration Off Venezuelan Coast.

Willemstad, Dec. 5.—Having been unable to obtain amicable settlement of outstanding differences with Venezuela, the Netherlands government has begun a naval demonstration off the coast of the South American republic, and since Wednesday vessels flying the Dutch flag have steamed from Puerto Cabello to La Guayra, at a distance of 3000 yards from the shore.

Will Not Admit Charge.

Wilmington, Del., Dec. 5.—E. A. Dupont, secretary, and Edward M. Mead, treasurer, of the several powder companies against which suit has been brought by the government, were examined today before United States Commissioner Mahaffey, by the government counsel in regard to the purchase of competing companies by the Dupont company, and an effort was made to show that, during several years when no dividends were declared, the money was used in purchasing other companies, but they would not admit this.

Finds Infernal Machine.

Stockton, Cal., Dec. 5.—What is believed to be an infernal machine was found in the Western Pacific construction yards today by a workman under a pile of ties. It consisted of a two-gallon can of dynamite, to which was attached a blasting fuse five feet long. The workman took the infernal machine to an open field and set it off, the explosion shaking the buildings within a radius of ten miles. There was enough explosive in the can to have blown a business block.

Seventeen Die in Storm.

St. Johns, N. F., Dec. 5.—Seventeen persons have perished in a storm which has lashed the New Foundland coast for 48 hours. In all ten fishing vessels have gone ashore, most of them breaking into fragments on the rocks. The storm caused much damage to wharves and boats in the numerous harbors.