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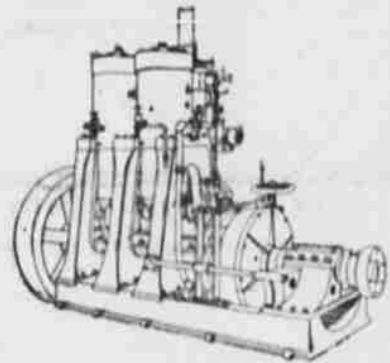
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RAILROADS ARE IN A CORNER

Decision in the Trans-Missouri Association Rate Case Far Reaching.

WHAT WILL BE THE EFFECT

On the Coast and in Astoria--Things That Might Have Been Done in the Years Gone By.

The final result of the mistake of Shelby M. Cullom's life, when, as United States senator from Illinois, in response to the pressure of the granger element, who wanted in some way to slap in the face the railroads which had built up that state, he secured the approval, February 4, 1887, of that travesty of American law, the interstate commerce act, with its anti-pooling, and long and short haul clauses, has just transpired.

The history of the past has completely demonstrated that unrestricted competition in rates has done more to completely upset all business arrangements than all of the pools which ever existed. Railroads need protection in their business, as much as does the dear public.

Had such a reasonable bill been passed, it stands to reason that the terrible slaughter of railroad property and tremendous losses to the people, at home and abroad, whose all was invested in stocks and bonds, in the past few years, might have been avoided, and perhaps even the great panic of 1893 itself averted.

At the Presbyterian church there will be the usual services at 11; evening services at 7:30. Theme of morning sermon, "Saul's Jealousy of David." Evening theme, "The Crucifixion." Fourth of the series on the life of Christ, Sunday school at 12:15.

The question has been asked, what effect will this action have upon the far West, and particularly Oregon and Astoria. The consensus of opinion of those who have studied the question is that if a general rate war follows, and many prominent managers think that it will, the competition for the time being will bring some little advantage to the few larger shippers, will unsettle values generally; but as far as Astoria is concerned, may induce such competition for her trade as will effect better arrangements with the new railroad than could be otherwise attained.

ROUGH WEATHER. The steamers Elder and Columbia ran side by side nearly all the way from

yesterday morning. Captain Conway, of the Columbia, says it was one of the roughest voyages he ever experienced. Both vessels rolled heavily. One lady on the Columbia was thrown across her stateroom, knocking her head through a glass in the door and receiving several cuts. Captain Conway said that the Elder, which carried a light cargo, rolled at times towards him so that he could see her opposite side.

PROBABLY SAFE.

From investigation, there would seem to be no foundation in fact for the rumor so assiduously circulated Thursday afternoon and evening that the steamer Elmore had foundered. The reports which were circulated were said to have come from parties from Seaside. Conductor Walker stated yesterday that he only had four passengers up from Seaside on Thursday, and that he did not believe any of them knew anything about the matter. The road between Seaside and Elk creek, he said, was obstructed by fifteen or twenty fallen trees, and the government telephone line was broken in as many places. No one, to his knowledge, had passed over that road except the mail carrier, and he had stated that he knew nothing of the report, and had had no communication with the Tillamook Rock people.

DELICATE OPERATION.

At the Portland hospital, yesterday, says the Oregonian, Dr. J. S. Bishop, of Astoria, assisted by Drs. Royal, Marum and C. L. Nichols, successfully performed the operation known as the "Caesarian section," for the second time upon a woman residing on the East Side. The first operation was performed three years since by Dr. Bishop, and the child is a fine, stout, healthy boy. This is considered a very difficult operation, and one which has to be performed with skill and dexterity, and very quickly, in order to be successful. The operation yesterday did not occupy more than 20 minutes, and mother and child are doing well. The number of cases in which a second operation has been successfully performed is very small, probably not more than half a dozen in the United States.

CHURCH SERVICES TOMORROW.

There will be services in the German language at the Congregational church on Sunday afternoon at 2:30.

Congregational Church--The usual services will be held. Morning theme, "Christ's Disciples the Light of the World." The Woodman of the World and the Ladies' Circle will attend the evening service. Theme, "Neighbors and Our Duty Toward Them." All are cordially invited.

M. E. Church--This being the date of the third quarterly meeting, there will be a love feast at 10 a. m. Preaching at 11 by Dr. Guk, to be followed by the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. There will be services at the church tonight, followed by the business of the quarterly conference.

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USELESS.

New York Evening Sun. "Rarely does a seal die from one or two blows," says a writer on the subject. "If not dead it is considered all the better, for it is easier to skin a seal when alive." And so a humane person has a scheme for providing sealers with a contrivance for dispatching the seals, as soon as they are clubbed. But, after all, why take the trouble? Owing to foreign selfishness the seal herd, in which we are interested is rapidly dwindling, and will almost have come to an end before any such tender hearted methods could be put in general use in Behring sea.

THE HOTELS.

Occident--A. Simon, C. W. Cannon, E. W. Ehrman, N. Mayer, J. A. Coxhead, G. S. Rumbush, San Francisco; H. G. Grady, D. Lipman, Portland; J. G. Megler and wife, Brookfield; C. H. Callender, Knappaon. Parker House--C. W. Babcock, Ilwaco; M. P. Arnold, San Francisco; Sam Oliver, Pillar Rock; P. Shapp, city.

THE DAYS DOINGS IN CONGRESS

Tariff Bill Discussed Under Five Minute Rule, Nine Pages Disposed Of.

DUTY ON LEAD IS INCREASED

Opposition Attempt to King in the Trust Question--New Ruling of Postoffice Department--Hawaii to Come In.

Washington, March 26.--The tariff bill was thrown open for amendment under the five minute rule in the house today. Seven weary hours of work only served to dispose of nine pages of the 162 pages of the bill. All the amendments offered by the democrats were rejected. Three slight amendments by the committee were adopted and also an amendment by Mahoney to increase the duty on white lead from two and a half cents to three cents per pound, the rate in the act of 1890. The present duty is one and a half cents. Mahoney said the increase was asked for by a concern which was independent of the lead trust. It was adopted by a strict party vote. The discussion covered a wide range of political topics and at times was interesting.

By far the most important feature of the day was the attempt of Dockery Cooper and others, backed by the entire opposition, to secure a vote on an amendment offered in a multitude of forms which provided that in case it should be shown to the satisfaction of the president that any article made dutiable by the bill was controlled by a trust or combination, the duty upon such articles should be suspended. Dingie made a point of order that the amendment was not germane to the dutiable list and would not be in order until the free list was reached. For almost three hours this point of order was gone over and made the subject of eruditions and recriminations. The democrats contended that if the amendment was ruled out it would never be voted upon, as the free list, in all human probability, would not be reached before the final vote was taken. The chair sustained the point of order. An appeal was taken, but the chair was sustained by a strict party vote of 158 to 104.

NEW POST OFFICE RULES.

Washington, March 26.--Another factor in the policy of the postoffice department is announced by First Assistant Postmaster General Heath. It is that offensive partisanship will not be considered a provocation for removal, unless such action is shown to have been detrimental to the administration of the postal service. Fully half a dozen of such charges were made to Mr. Heath today, including offices at Hastings, Neb., where Senator Thurston made a complaint, and at Ashland, Ill. Every case, however, lacked the essential requirement of the specification of damage to the service. This policy, when announced by Heath, created some surprise among those who had pushed their charges.

IN THE SENATE.

Washington, March 26.--The senate, in view of the great demand for it, today adopted a resolution to print the recent supreme court decision in the trans-Missouri Traffic Association case.

There was more discussion, without result, of the alleged absurdities of the civil service system. Then after adopting the resolution inquiring for information regarding the killing of American sailors on the Richelleu and Bolton, at Santiago de Cuba, the senate went into executive session.

HAWAII WANTS TO COME IN.

Washington, March 26.--It is said that formal application for annexation to the United States probably will be made soon by the government of Hawaii through its minister to the United States. The application will be presented to the state department and it is expected it will be transmitted to congress.

BALLOT FOR SENATOR.

Frankfort, Ky., March 26.--The ballot for senator today resulted as follows: Hunter 64, Blackburn 46, Davis 13, Boyle 6, Stone 1. The general assembly then adjourned. The republican nominee is still two short of election and the botlers are having all the best of it.

CITY LIGHT PLANTS.

An ordinance has passed the Spokane council, and will be voted upon

by the citizens, which provides for a loan of \$40,000 for installing an electric light plant owned and operated by the city. Estimates have been made before the council, of the cost of establishing and maintaining a plant of this kind, which puts the total cost of plant at \$11,000, and operating expenses at \$1,020 per month. Under this system the city expects to furnish its own arc lights at a cost of \$5.61 per month, and it is now paying at the rate of \$5 per month for all arc lights in use.

ITS EFFECTS.

Coal Trusts and All Kinds of Labor Organizations Affected.

New York, March 26.--The far-reaching effect of the United States supreme court's decision in the trans-Missouri Freight Association case is beginning to dawn upon persons interested in pools and combinations of various sorts. The view grows general that the supreme court has struck a vital blow at every form of trust and combination under the terms of the Sherman anti-trust law, which is sustained by the decision. They say that the combination among the anthracite coal producing and carrying companies, called the coal trust, is illegal. It is claimed that the freights on hard coal are the highest on any commodity in the country. This toll is fixed by the combination. Another big combine, which it is claimed runs counter to this decision of the supreme court, is the pooling arrangements between the General Electric and Westinghouse Companies.

Frederick Whiteridge, counsel for the reorganization committee of the Reading Railway, said: "If it is a penal offense, under the Sherman anti-trust law, for railroads to pool traffic, how about the labor organizations? The Knights of Labor, American Railway Union, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, and other labor organizations?"

THE FLOODS.

Upper Mississippi Still Rising and Much Damage Is Done.

Virginia, Ill., March 26.--The Sangamon and Illinois rivers continue to rise, having risen two or three inches daily for the past two weeks. The high water marks of former years are passed and the situation grows alarming. Many families have evacuated their homes on the lowlands, going to the bluffs for safety. The Illinois river is still below the high water mark by six inches.

AT QUINCY.

Quincy, Ill., March 26.--The Mississippi river here registers thirteen feet and five inches above the low water mark, a rise of five inches in twenty-four hours. The lowlands are submerged and many farmers on the Missouri side cannot get into the city. The government weather bureau has sent out warning that the river will be 14 feet by Saturday.

AT METROPOLIS.

Metropolis, Ill., March 26.--This city presented a sorry appearance today, in consequence of the flood. The river is a vast sea. There are not to exceed twenty-five dwelling houses along the river front where the occupants have not been driven out by the waters. Fences and outhouses are all gone. The Southern Hotel and a dozen other houses are wrecks.

AGAINST THE TARIFF.

Special to the Astorian.

San Francisco, March 26.--Fruit canners, salmon packers and other exporters of tinned food products, representing some of the largest industries on the coast, are alarmed at the provisions of the Dingie bill abolishing the drawback on exported cans and boxes made from dutiable tinplate. The San Francisco Fruit Exchange has sent communications by wire and mail to the California delegation in congress protesting against this provision. Salmon packers and manufacturers of tinned products have taken similar action.

STEAMER BLOWN ASHORE.

Tacoma, March 26.--The steamer Cyrus Walker was blown ashore on Fox Island, Puget Sound, today. The steamer was left high and dry by the receding tide. The boom of logs she was towing broke up and scattered along the shore for miles.

Wait for the "Huseby," the best bicycle on earth for the least money. \$40 and \$50. F. L. Parker, agent.

SITUATION IN CRETE SERIOUS

Cretans Declare They Prefer the Ottoman Yoke to Autonomy.

GERMANY TAKES NEW ACTION

Will Withdraw From the Concert of Powers Because of England's Refusal to Join in the Blockade

Athens, March 26.--The bombardment of Malaxa has produced a painful impression here. The newspapers are filled with indignant protests. Cretan delegates in Athens have published a pamphlet in English protesting against autonomy and declaring that they prefer the Ottoman yoke. They pamphlet closes with the declaration: "Cretans will die if necessary for the sake of the cause of union with Greece."

WHAT RUSSIA THINKS.

St. Petersburg, March 26.--The members of the diplomatic corps here apprehend serious complications in Macedonia which will jeopardize the peace of Europe. Although no recognition of the chief danger lies in that direction, the proposal of Great Britain to establish a neutral zone on the Greek frontier is regarded as inefficient and impracticable. It is urged here that it would be preferable to accelerate the pacification of Crete by immediately blockading the coast of Greece, thus slipping in the bud the development of complications in Macedonia.

FIGHTING CONTINUES.

Canea, March 26.--The fighting between the Christians and Turks continued until midnight. During the evening the insurgents burned Musulman dwellings and property at Perivolos and in the morning burned and abandoned the fort at Koratid. Strabaling is proceeding about the village of Tsalalaria outside Suda. The insurgents are estimated to have lost 200 men in the fighting around Malaxa.

GERMANY WITHDRAWS.

Constantinople, March 26.--It is asserted here tonight, on what is regarded as reliable authority, that in consequence of the refusal of Lord Salisbury to join in the blockade of Greek ports Germany has given notice to the powers of her intention to withdraw from the concert.

CROSS GRAINED.

Indianapolis Journal. One of our consuls in France writes the state department that there is a market there for a large amount of American oak lumber, provided it be sawed in the manner preferred by French lumber dealers. The American manufacturer turns out goods to suit himself, not foreign buyers. English and German manufacturers are much wiser in this regard, and thereby get a great deal of foreign trade which Americans might have if they would adopt proper methods.

THE OREGON.

San Francisco, March 26.--The battleship Oregon will leave tomorrow for Port Orchard, Puget Sound, where she will be put on the dry dock.

TREASURER'S NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that there is funds in the city treasury to pay all warrants indorsed prior to July 1, 1894, except warrants drawn on Wall street and West Ninth street sewer. Interest will cease after this date. J. W. CONN, City Treasurer. Astoria, March 27, 1897.



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