

WORK OF TELEGRAPHERS

Employees Of Two Southern Railways Ordered Out.

STRIKE BEGAN LAST FALL.

Out of the Refusal of the Officers of the Companies to Consider Grievances of the Men.

Atlanta, Ga., April 14.—The threat of trouble of the telegraphers and station employees of the Southern Railway and Alabama Great Southern Railway, which has been pending for months, came to a head here when President Powell, of the Railway Telegraphers, called the telegraphers to quit work.

Trouble commenced last fall, when the telegraphers of each division organized a committee to go before the superintendents and ask a settlement of certain grievances. Hearings were refused them, and a complete scheme of civil government for the island is also attached to the measure.

Pacific Cable Bill. Washington, April 13.—With little debate of importance, the senate today passed the Pacific cable bill, a measure appropriating \$3,000,000 for the construction of a cable between San Francisco and Honolulu. The bill was unanimously reported by the committee on naval affairs, and that it was passed without serious objection is regarded as a compliment to the committee. During the greater part of the session, the District of Columbia appropriation bill was under consideration. As passed, it carries nearly \$80,000,000.

ATTACK ON BULLER.

Roberts Reports That the Boers Were Repulsed.

London, April 13.—The war office has received the following dispatch from Lord Roberts:

"Bloemfontein, April 12.—Methuen reports that the party of Boers defeated April 5 made good resistance for four hours, and only gave in when our troops, with fixed bayonets, were within 15 yards of them. Seven of the enemy were killed, 11 wounded and 51 made prisoners. Besides Lieutenants Bolye and Williams, Sergeant Patrick Campbell was killed and two of our men were wounded. Williams was killed deliberately after the white flag had been held up. The perpetrator of the crime was at once shot. Methuen speaks in high terms of the intelligent manner in which the Imperial Yeomanry and the Kimberley mounted corps have behaved.

FIGHTING IN NATAL.

Attacks on the British Lines Stubbornly Resisted.

London, April 14.—A special dispatch from Eland's Laagte, dated yesterday, says:

"Fighting was renewed beyond Eland's Laagte this afternoon. The steadily advanced upon the British positions. There was a continuous fire and the Boer big guns were active. The British replied effectively and after two hours' fighting the Boers were checked."

FATAL ROPE-SHIPPING CONTEST.

Chicago, April 13.—A special to the Chronicle from Belleville, Ill., says:

"A skipping-rope contest has caused the death of 11-year-old Freda Poignee and occasioned the serious illness of two other children. There was great rivalry among the three children and others of the school they attended as to who could jump the rope the most. The attending physician said the cause of the death of Freda was heart disease, caused by too violent exercise."

RUSSIA FORCE AT KUSHK.

London, April 13.—The Simla correspondent of the Times says: I learn from a trustworthy source that the strength of the Russian garrison at Kushk is about 30,000 men, including a mountain battery. The previous reports were very much exaggerated. The Duke of Connaught is mentioned as the probable successor of the late Sir William Lockhart as commander-in-chief in India.

HAD TOO MANY BEER STAMPS.

New York, April 13.—Thomas Blandy, a bartender, was arrested this afternoon for having in his possession \$10,000 worth of beer stamps. The arrest was made by City Revenue Agent F. G. Thompson. Blandy was taken before the United States commissioner and held in \$5,000 bail.

ENGLISH MINING SYNDICATE BUYING.

Joplin, Mo., April 13.—The new \$1,000,000 English mining syndicate made its first deal in American zinc property today, purchasing the Southside Mining & Milling Company's 15

ORDER SYSTEM FOR NOME.

Washington, April 14.—The post-department has arranged to profit-name money order system by the name, Alaska.

JAPANESE REFUSED A LANDING.

San Francisco, April 14.—Thirty of the 210 Japanese steerage passengers arrived on the steamer King a few days ago, have refused a landing by the immigration officials, but have appealed to the secretary of the treasury, and pending a decision from Washington, will be held in the principal reason for their refusal by the officials is the discovery that the Japanese came to contract laborers.

THE STRUGGLE ENDED.

House Finally Disposed of the Puerto Rican Bill.

Washington, April 13.—The long and bitter struggle over the Puerto Rican tariff bill ended today when the house, by a vote of 161 to 153, concurred in all the senate amendments. The bill now requires only the signature of the speaker of the house and the president of the senate before going to the president for his approval. These signatures will be attached tomorrow, and before nightfall the bill properly will be a law.

As the bill originally passed the house, it was a simple bill, imposing 15 per cent of the Dingley rates on goods going into Puerto Rico from the United States and coming from Puerto Rico into the United States. As amended by the senate and today agreed to by the house, all restrictions on goods coming into the United States from Puerto Rico are eliminated, and certain foodstuffs and other articles which heretofore have gone into Puerto Rico free by executive order are excluded from the operation of the 15 per cent duty imposed on goods entering the island from the United States. A complete scheme of civil government for the island is also attached to the measure.

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MODE OF ELECTING SENATORS

House Favors a Change to Popular Vote.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Resolution to That Effect Adopted by a Vote of 240 to 15—Senator Talbert's Tactics Are Denounced.

Washington, April 16.—The house today, by a vote of 240 to 15, adopted a resolution for a constitutional amendment providing for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people. Fourteen Republicans and one Democrat voted against it. By the terms of the resolution, the amendment submitted to the legislatures is as follows:

"The senate of the United States shall be composed of two senators from each state, who shall be elected by direct vote of the people thereof for a term of six years, and each senator shall have one vote. A plurality of the votes cast for candidates for senator shall be sufficient to elect. The electors in each state shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the state legislatures, respectively.

"When a vacancy happens by death, resignation or otherwise, in the representation of any state in the senate, the same shall be filled for the unexpired term thereof in the same manner as is provided for the election of senators in paragraph 1; provided, that the executive thereof may make temporary appointment until the next general or special election, in accordance with the statutes or constitution of such state."

BOERS HEADED OFF.

Lord Roberts Checks Their Forward Movement.

London, April 16.—The forward movement of the Boers is checked, says Lord Roberts. This is taken to mean not by fighting, but by disposition to head off their advance and bar their way to vulnerable points in the line of British communications. His dispatch to the war office follows:

"Bloemfontein, April 14.—The enemy's movements south have been checked. Wepener is still surrounded, but the little garrison is holding out well. Troops are being moved to their assistance. The health of the troops is good, and the climate perfect."

SENATE DECLINES TO CONSIDER THE NICARAGUA BILL.

Washington, April 14.—An effort was made in the senate today by Morgan (Dem. Ala.) to displace the present unfinished business, the Spooner Philippine bill, by the substitution in its stead of the Nicaragua canal bill.

While Morgan's motion failed, 15 to 33, the Philippine measure had a narrow escape from being displaced by the Alaskan civil code bill, on motion of Carter (Rep. Mont.), the motion being defeated on a roll call, 22 to 24. The feature of the day's proceedings was an exhaustive discussion of the Quay case by Burrows (Rep. Mich.).

ISLAND DEPOSITORIES.

Washington, April 14.—The house today, after a spirited debate, adopted the resolution reported from the insular affairs committee to authorize the secretary of the treasury to designate depositories in Puerto Rico, Cuba and the Philippines for the deposit of government funds.

By the terms of the resolution, it applies to Cuba only so long as the island shall be occupied by the United States. An amendment to include the Philippines in this provision as to Cuba, offered, as was stated, to emphasize the desire of the opposition not to retain the islands, was defeated by a party vote. A senate bill which will permit the dependent mothers of soldiers or sailors of the Spanish war, even though they married Confederate soldiers, to receive the benefit of the general pension law, was passed.

REMAINDER OF THE DAY WAS DEVOTED TO DEBATE UPON A RESOLUTION FROM THE COMMITTEE ON THE ELECTION OF PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT AND REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT EMPOWERING THE LEGISLATURES OF STATES TO DECIDE WHETHER THE UNITED STATES SENATORS SHALL BE ELECTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OR DIRECTLY BY THE PEOPLE.

A substitute resolution was offered by the minority of the committee, which differed from the majority resolutions in giving the states no option, but providing that in all states the people should vote directly for United States senators.

WORK TRAIN WRECKED.

Redding, Cal., April 14.—In the wreck of a Southern Pacific work train, five miles below Cottonwood, tonight, three railroad employes were killed and three injured, two probably fatally. The work train was backing from Hooker to Cottonwood, and the caboose, followed by five flat cars, left the track. The cars rolled over the caboose, crushing it into the ground and killing three of its five occupants.

CHICAGO, APRIL 16.—THE ILLINOIS MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION, AT ITS MEETING LAST NIGHT, TOOK THE STAND THAT THERE SHOULD BE AN EARLY REVISION OF THE WAR WENGE TAX.

VAN DERBILT INHERITANCE TAX.

New York, April 14.—The appellate division of the supreme court today handed down a decision in the matter of the appraisal of the estate of the late William K. Vanderbilt. An order of Surrogate Fitzgerald, declaring a certain fund subject to the inheritance tax law was affirmed. This was a fund of \$5,000,000 held in trust for the benefit of the late Cornelius Vanderbilt.

One pound of cork will support a man of ordinary size in the water.

SITUATION IN PUERTO RICO.

Former Good Feeling Between Natives and Americans Lessening.

Ponce, Puerto Rico, April 14.—At no time since the hurricane of August 8 last, has the condition of the poor of Puerto Rico been as bad as it is today. About 95 per cent of the island may be placed in the peon class, which is made up of a mixture of all races. In the other 5 per cent are included the well-to-do, educated people, such as merchants, planters and professional men and their families.

This better class is able to pass through such times as are now prevailing without actual physical suffering, but their business affairs are at a standstill, and have been for a long time, and this deprives the majority of the large laboring class of a means of livelihood. This large body of laboring people furnishes the very cheap and effective labor which is needed for agriculture and other work, but at all times they have been in an under fed and poorly nourished condition.

Their hardships have been greatly added to by the scarcity of fruit since the hurricane, and it is consequently increased in price. Salt fish, rice and beans have been imported free of duty since the hurricane, but little of the benefit derived from this has gone to the people, and now, when there is a prospect of 15 per cent of the Dingley tariff being placed on these articles, the price has been greatly advanced. Merchants hesitate to import large stocks because of the prospect of free trade, and the present scarcity of fruit is also a cause for the advance in prices. Rice has gone up from 5 to 6 centavos a pound to 8 and 9, beans from 6 to 12, and, at one time, a few days ago, to 15 centavos a pound, while salt fish has advanced from 6 to about 10 centavos.

No one who understands the situation here will deny that much of the former good feeling between Puerto Ricans and Americans has been lost. Besides, Americans are fewer in number in Puerto Rico today than at any time since shortly after the troops first landed, and those departing have left a long list of defunct companies, bankrupt business, wrecked schemes and anxious creditors, who, in some cases, hold choice collections of worthless notes and checks. Not only are Americans leaving the island, but large numbers of Puerto Ricans have gone to Venezuela, to Santo Domingo and to Cuba. Three days ago more than 300 natives sailed for Cuba to obtain employment there, and at least 1,000 sailed from this port alone during the last three months.

Much livestock is also being shipped to Cuba. The greatest loss to Puerto Rico in this respect is in the large cargoes of magnificent cattle, which it will take years to replace.

AGAINST THE CANAL.

Senate Declines to Consider the Nicaragua Bill.

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LIVESTOCK IN CITIES

A Special Enumeration of Domestic Animals Not Found on Farms or Ranges.

In the coming census a special enumeration will be made of the number and value of livestock not found on farms and ranges. The preparation in the census office of this supplementary schedule, calls to mind the enormous importance of the livestock interests of the country.

Statistics of livestock heretofore have been very incomplete, because no enumeration is made in cities and villages. We obtain reliable estimates of the stock on farms and ranges, but the horses and other animals in street-car, express, livery and other city stables go uncounted. This defect has made trustworthy calculations about the sources of future supply and the probable increase of cattle and sheep, wholly impossible.

The agricultural department makes estimates of the live stock of the country, but these are also confined to stock on the farms and ranges. Moreover their count is made at a time of the year—January—at which there are but few young animals on hand. The census enumeration will refer to June 1, and in consequence will include most of the young born in 1900. The animals will be classified by ages, and the result of the June enumeration will be as representative a picture of the stock of the country as can be secured.

THE GOLD KING.

The Gold King Mining & Milling Company, of Seattle, is a newly incorporated organization which the incorporators and stockholders are confident of bringing to the front during the coming season. These properties are located in the very heart of the Index mining district, adjoining the Copper Vault, upon which the important strike was made a short time since. Active work is soon to be commenced upon these properties with the idea of bringing them to a producing basis as rapidly as possible.

MONTE CRISTO MINING.

Perhaps the greatest revival in mining and milling which Western Washington has experienced in many years is soon to be inaugurated in the justly famous Monte Cristo mining district. By June 15 trains will be running to Monte Cristo and the many valuable properties which were forced to suspend operation after transportation was shut off by reason of the washout of the E. & M. C. railroad will again resume active work with an increased force of men.

INDEX WAKING UP.

Considerable activity is manifest in mining circles at Index, Wash. Supplies are coming in daily for the various mining properties; new developments are in progress, while workings that were closed on account of the approach of winter last year are starting up again, or preparing to start. Many a cabin, throughout the various camps, that has presented a deserted and lonesome appearance for four months past now exhibits signs of life; smoke is issuing from the pipe in the roof; a dog sits at one entrance; some one is chopping wood nearby or repairing or enlarging the log structure. A new tent shows on some hitherto untenanted hillside, while a curl of blue smoke arising from the vicinity betrays the presence of a camp fire. Tiny specks of light can be distinguished again in the hills on either hand as one travels over the Skykomish valley trail by night; the tide of travel is increasing, while pack animals are again in demand; in fact, everything tells of the return of spring in this growing copper camp.

NORTHWEST NOTES.

Many new orchards are being set in the Kittitas valley this spring.

A French draft horse, valued at \$2,000, died last week at Tule lake, Or., of colic.

R. G. Robinson, a Wheeler county, Or., stockman, has sold 50 2-year-old steers at \$28 per head.

W. R. Mascall, a Grant county sheepman, is reported to have suffered the loss of 500 head from poison.

Wheat is already heading in the Walla Walla valley, with every promise for the biggest crop ever harvested there.

Several papers of the state not only urge voters to register, but ask their subscribers to "see that your neighbors do likewise."

San Juan county, Wash., has paid all its expenses and has a balance of \$496.66 in the treasury as a contingent fund.

Wenatchee valley has been visited by heavy frosts the past few nights, greatly to the disappointment of the gardeners.

The infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Ullery, of Wenatchee, Wash., was fatally hurt by being stepped on by a horse a few days ago.

Medford, Or., boasts the establishment of a cigar factory. It employs young women, and expects them to turn out 20,000 cigars weekly.

The project of supplying electric power and light at Cheney from Spokane Falls, 16 miles away, is under consideration by the proprietors of the water power.

The cost to Spokane county of punishing George Webster for the murder of Mrs. Asplund was \$2,139.20. This included \$438 for three years' board in the county jail, and \$896.90 for execution expenses.

Herbert Shaw, of the government fish hatchery at Baker lake, Wash., says the hatchery has already turned out 12,000,000 sockeye salmon fry, and about 6,000,000 will be liberated before the season is over. About 60,000 steel head trout will also be hatched.

WEEKLY TRADE REVIEWS.

Appearance of Irregularity in the General Situation.

Bradstreet's says: Backward spring weather conditions have figured considerably in distributive trade reports this week, and in connection with some weakness in prices of leading stocks have imparted an appearance of irregularity to the general situation. Another of those downward swings in the prices of agricultural staples is exhibited this week in slightly lowered prices for the cereals, partly because of the bearish sentiment of immediate supplies and partly because of the better than expected government crop report, which is taken to indicate a possible winter-wheat yield in excess of all records.

Corn and oats have sympathized with the reaction in pork products, which reaction, however, has not been universal, as shown by the fact that lard is at the highest point reached on the present boom.

Evidences accumulate that active missionary work in favor of lower prices for iron and steel is at last bearing fruit.

The strength of raw sugar is a reflection chiefly of the fact that a considerable shortage is looked for in the supplies of cane sugar, not only in Cuba, but in the far East.

A slight upward swing in cotton is to be noted this week, and Southern mills have advanced prices. On the other hand, while the mills are active on old orders, new business is reported of smaller volume.

Wheat, including flour, shipments for the week aggregate 2,896,653 bushels, against 3,336,936 bushels last week.

Business failures for the week number 152, as compared with 182 in the United States last week.

PACIFIC COAST TRADE.

Seattle Markets.

Onions, new, \$3.25 @ 4.00 per sack. Lettuce, hot house, 45c per doz. Potatoes, new, \$17 @ 18. Beets, per sack, 75 @ 85c. Turnips, per sack, 60c. Carrots, per sack, 75c. Parsnips, per sack, 75 @ 85c. Cauliflower, 85 @ 90c per dozen. Cabbage, native and California, \$1.00 @ 1.25 per 100 pounds. Apples, \$1.25 @ 1.50 per box. Prunes, 60c per box. Butter—Creamery, 22c per pound; dairy, 17 @ 22c; ranch, 17c per pound. Eggs—15 @ 16c. Cheese—Native, 15c. Poultry—13 @ 14c; dressed, 14 @ 15c; spring, \$5.

Hay—Puget Sound timothy, \$12.00; choice Eastern Washington timothy, \$18.00 @ 19.00. Corn—Whole, \$33.00; cracked, \$23; feed meal, \$23. Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$20.

Flour—Patent, per barrel, \$3.25; blended straight, \$3.00; California, \$3.25; buckwheat flour, \$6.00; Graham, per barrel, \$3.00; whole wheat flour, \$3.00; rye flour, \$3.80 @ 4.00. Millstuffs—Bran, per ton, \$13.00; shorts, per ton, \$14.00.

Feed—Chopped feed, \$19.00 per ton; middlings, per ton, \$20; oil cake meal, per ton, \$30.00.

Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef steers, 7 1/2 @ 8c; cows, 7c; mutton 8c; pork, 8c; trimmed, 9c; veal, 8 1/2 @ 10c.

Hams—Large, 13c; small, 12 1/2c; breakfast bacon, 12 1/2c; dry salt sides, 8c.

PORTLAND MARKET.

Wheat—Walla Walls, 54 @ 55c; Valley, 54c; Bluestem, 57c per bushel. Flour—Best grades, \$5.00; Graham, \$2.50; superfine, \$2.10 per barrel. Oats—Choice white, 35 @ 36c; choice gray, 34c per bushel.

Barley—Feed barley, \$14 @ 14.50; brewing, \$17.00 @ 17.50 per ton. Millstuffs—Bran, \$13 per ton; middlings, \$19; shorts, 95; chop, \$14 per ton.

Hay—Timothy, \$9 @ 10; clover, \$7 @ 7.50; Oregon wild hay, \$6 @ 7 per ton. Butter—Fancy creamery, 40 @ 45c; seconds, 45c; dairy, 30 @ 37 1/2c; store, 25 @ 32 1/2c.

Eggs—12c per dozen. Cheese—Oregon full cream, 13c; Young America, 14c; new cheese 10c per pound.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.50 @ 4.50 per dozen; hens, \$5.00; springs, \$2.50 @ 3.50; geese, \$6.50 @ 8.00 for old; \$4.50 @ 6.50; ducks, \$5.50 @ 6.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 10 @ 11c per pound.

Potatoes—30 @ 50c per sack; sweets, 2 @ 2 1/2c per pound. Vegetables—Beets, \$1; turnips, 75c; per sack; garlic, 7c per pound; cabbage, 1 1/2c per pound; parsnips, 75c; onions, \$2.50 @ 3.00; carrots, 50c.

Hops—3 @ 8c per pound. Wool—Valley, 16 @ 18c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 10 @ 15c; mohair, 27 @ 30c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 4 1/2c; dressed mutton, 7 @ 7 1/2c per pound; lambs, \$2.50 each.

Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$5.00; light and feeders, \$4.50; dressed, \$5.00 @ 6.50 per 100 pounds.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$4.00 @ 4.50; cows, \$3.50 @ 4.00; dressed beef, 6 1/2 @ 7 1/2c per pound.

Veal—Large, 6 1/2 @ 7 1/2c; small, 8 @ 8 1/2c per pound. Tallow—5 @ 5 1/2c; No. 2 and grease, 3 1/2 @ 4c per pound.

SAN FRANCISCO MARKET.

Wool—Spring—Nevada, 18 @ 18c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 12 @ 16c; Valley, 20 @ 22c; Northern, 10 @ 12c.

Hops—18 @ 19c crop, 11 @ 13c per pound. Butter