

CONFIRMED IN PARIS

Suspicious Cabled to Washington and Rio Janeiro.

STORY MAY PROVE TO BE HOAX

Steamer Reported to Have Conveyed Explosives to Southern Port—Precautions Taken.

Paris, Jan. 21.—The reports cabled from Rio de Janeiro that the Brazilian authorities were warned from Paris of a possible attempt to blow up the American battle-ship while in the harbor there are true. Some time ago certain suspicions indicating the existence of a plot to destroy the whole or a portion of the fleet, either at Rio Janeiro or in the Straits of Magellan, were aroused and communicated to Rio Janeiro and Washington. A chartered steamer was reported to have conveyed explosives for the use of the conspirators to Rio Janeiro, arriving there about the middle of December, and John Fedher, whose name is mentioned in the Rio Janeiro dispatches, was one of the men whose names were revealed here as implicated in the conspiracy.

The alleged plot is supposed to have some rather startling ramifications, but the evidence along this line is far from conclusive and rests chiefly upon the statement of an individual whose record was subsequently proved to be anything but creditable. Consequently the whole affair is regarded with much skepticism, and indeed the presumption has been raised that it may have been a deliberately concocted scare.

HENEY NEARING CLIMAX.

Government Witnesses Tell of Land Stealing by Settlers.

Portland, Jan. 21.—With testimony strong and apparently conclusive, the government yesterday by several witnesses in the Hall-Mays conspiracy trial exposed the bold and law defying operations of the Butte Creek Land, Livestock & Lumber company, and disclosed to the jury how during the years 1900 and 1901 this company acquired fraudulently a considerable area of public land. By the same evidence it was shown how this land grabbing corporation by the acquisition of these lands was enabled to complete the enclosure of a still larger area of government land to which other settlers were denied access for grazing purposes.

Heny, for the prosecution, made considerable progress in establishing the existence of a conspiracy among the members of the Butte Creek company and he said last night that the government's case would be supported still further as to the alleged conspiracy by the introduction today of more testimony of the same character as that presented yesterday. When this has been done, Heney will begin the next step outlined by the prosecution and will seek positively to connect Hall and Mays with the conspiracy that will have been proved against the officers of the Butte Creek company.

STORM CITY HALL.

Six Thousand Unemployed in Seattle Make Demonstration.

Seattle, Jan. 21.—The unemployed laborer's long talked of demonstration was made yesterday.

Marshaled by leaders of the Industrial Workers of the World, an organization which includes the unemployed in its membership, about 6,000 men marched up First avenue for several blocks and then debouched to the city hall, where a call was made for the mayor.

The mayor submitted a letter a short time later in which he replied to the demands by saying that the county commissioners have devoted \$5,000 to feeding and sheltering the unemployed, that all public works provided for by appropriation are now under way and that to do away with the chain gang it will be necessary for the council to strike the ordinance from the books.

Several Arrests in Brazil.

Rio Janeiro, Jan. 21.—Several arrests have been made in connection with the alleged plot to destroy part of the American fleet. The band which is supposed to have organized the plot is presumably composed of five Italians. One Canadian and two Germans have been arrested here, and it is believed that the other members of the band have been taken into custody. The members of the band counted on the assistance of a Spaniard named Rochero, who has lived in this city for a long time.

Bank Commissioners Sued.

San Francisco, Jan. 21.—Henry B. Russ today began suit against the present and former boards of state bank commissioners to recover \$16,374.53, which he deposited with the California Safe Deposit & Trust company on the strength, he alleged, of favorable reports regarding the condition of that institution, issued by the commissioners. He said that he made a deposit of \$10,000 in the bank only two days before its doors were closed.

\$15,000,000 More Retired.

New York, Jan. 21.—Large blocks of clearing house loan checks, amounting to about \$15,000,000, were retired yesterday, and the amount outstanding now is in the neighborhood of \$20,000,000.

RUEF FORFEITS IMMUNITY.

District Attorney Langdon Says Negotiations Are Over.

San Francisco, Jan. 20.—It was announced late Saturday night that the graft prosecution has determined to discontinue all negotiations with Abraham Ruef, the central figure in the graft cases, in the matter of granting him immunity. It was further stated that today the prosecution would demand that Ruef be put on trial before Judge Dunne on one of the many charges of bribery for which he has been indicted.

This determination of the prosecution came at the end of several days' fruitless negotiations with Ruef. It is said that some time ago the prosecution promised Ruef partial immunity in consideration of his taking the witness stand and truthfully testifying in full to all his transactions with public service corporation officials to be tried on the charge of bribery.

When the District Court of Appeals rendered its decision declaring void the indictments for extortion against ex-Mayor Schmitz, to which Ruef had already pleaded guilty, it is charged that Ruef, realizing that the decision placed him in an advantageous position, demanded full immunity. This the prosecution would not consent to grant, and there followed a series of conferences in which Ruef endeavored to secure better terms.

RUSSIAN FOLLOWS FLEET.

Naval Officer of the Czar Watching Every Movement.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 20.—The importance attached by the Russian admiralty to the lessons to be learned from the voyage of the American battleship fleet under Rear Admiral Evans is shown by the fact that the naval officer, Commander Alexis Diatchkoff, is following the fleet around the Horn, traveling from port to port by any means he can obtain. He adopted this course only after his repeated requests for permission to join the ships had been refused.

It is reported here that Diatchkoff succeeded in getting on board one of the American warships at Rio Janeiro, and the entire incident of this officer's activities had been a source of some friction between the Russian foreign minister here and the admiralty. When Baron Rosen, the Russian ambassador to the United States, was instructed to ask for a permit for Diatchkoff to join Admiral Evans, he declined on the grounds that he knew his request would be unfavorably received at Washington.

Thereupon the Russian admiralty, after further correspondence with the Foreign office, instructed Diatchkoff to apply personally to Secretary Metcalf. This the officer did, but in vain. He was therefore ordered to follow the fleet as closely as he could, making use of private steamers.

PROGRESS IS SLOW.

Hall-Mays Trial at Portland May Take Weeks to End.

Portland, Jan. 20.—Neither Prosecutor Heney nor the lawyers for the defendants will hazard a prediction as to the time that will be required to conclude the Hall-Mays conspiracy trial. One week already has been consumed and the government has scarcely made a beginning, only one of its many important witnesses having been examined. More than 70 witnesses for the government are in the city, summoned to testify against one or more of the 12 defendants named in the indictment, but since the prosecution has decided to try only Hall and Mays at this time, Mr. Heney says he may not call all of the government's witnesses.

In this way the trial may be shortened somewhat, but if all of the witnesses take the stand, the case will drag along for weeks. There is little doubt that between two and three weeks more at the least will be required to complete the introduction of testimony and submit the case to the jury. Thus far the testimony has not been damaging to Hall or Mays.

Harvester Trust is Fined.

Topeka, Kan., Jan. 20.—Judge Dana, in the Shawnee County District court here today, assessed a fine of \$12,600 against the International Harvester company, which the court found guilty on 43 counts of violating the Kansas anti-trust law. The maximum fine is \$1,000 a count, and the minimum \$100. The criminal suit was filed a year ago by Attorney General Coleman, who contended that the harvester company was being operated in Kansas in violation of the anti-trust laws. An appeal will be taken.

Fatal Wreck on Seaboard Line.

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 20.—As the result of a head-on collision at Cameron, 55 miles south of Raleigh, between a Seaboard Air Line freight and a north bound fast passenger train, early today, two men were killed and 20 injured, none seriously. Engineer E. H. Vaughan and a negro fireman, both of the passenger train, were killed. The collision is attributed to trouble with the air brakes on the freight train and to complicated train orders.

Judge Receives Explosive.

Cleveland, Jan. 20.—Judge George S. Addam, of the Juvenile court, today received in his mail a stick of what appears to be dynamite or solidified nitro glycerine, six inches in length. There was no mechanism to detonate the explosive. Judge Addam opened the tube in the court room, without having an idea of its contents.

DOINGS OF THE SIXTIETH CONGRESS

Wednesday, January 22.

Washington, Jan. 22.—President Roosevelt today transmitted to the senate and house copies of the tariff regulations negotiated some time ago between the United States and Germany, together with a proposed amendment to the customs administrative act, putting the same in force as a statute. In the senate the message aroused lively discussion in executive session when taken up. The remarks were not addressed to the message so much as to the policy of considering it in executive session, as well as the policy of the president in connection with the agreement.

Senator Hanabrough declared the harvester trust is trying to control delegates to the Republican National convention. A bill has been introduced to raise the pay of officers in the revenue cutter service.

Washington, Jan. 22.—Rapid progress was made in the house of representatives in the consideration of the bill to codify and revise the penal laws of the United States. The only amendment of any importance which got through was one by Ollie James, of Kentucky, making it a criminal offense, under heavy penalty, to falsify government crop statistics, the object of the amendment being to protect cotton and tobacco growers from speculators. Over 50 pages of the bill were disposed of.

The house asked the president for a report of the commission sent to Goldfield to investigate the trouble there.

Representative Humphrey introduced a bill appropriating \$3,000,000 for four submarines for Puget sound. Representative Jones introduced a bill making it unlawful for any person to injure or destroy any part of government irrigation works.

Representative Kahn introduced a bill appropriating \$5,000,000 for submarines for the Pacific coast.

Tuesday, January 21.

Washington, Jan. 21.—The senate today discussed the propriety of authorizing one of its committees to investigate the circumstances connected with the issuance of an injunction at the instance of the Hitchman Coal & Coke company against John Mitchell by Judge Alston Grayson, of the United States circuit court of the Northern district of West Virginia.

Considerable time was spent in considering the bill to revise the criminal code of the United States. Senator Teller today introduced an amendment to the sundry civil appropriation bill providing for the purchase of silver bullion to the extent of \$100,000,000 to be made into subsidiary coinage.

Senator Heyburn, of Idaho, today introduced a bill to provide for ascertainment of the true boundary line between Idaho and Washington.

Washington, Jan. 21.—Two exciting episodes and narrow escape of the representatives from defeat on an amendment to the penal code bill made the session of the house today one of intense interest. First came a hot tilt between Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, and Randall, of Texas, in regard to the latter's amendments prohibiting senators or representatives from being employed by public service corporations.

The climax of the debate came when Clark, of Missouri, amid thunderous Democratic applause, declared that William Jennings Bryan would be nominated at the Denver convention, and Boutell, of Illinois, aroused the members on his side of the house to a high pitch of enthusiasm by stating that Speaker Cannon would be the Republican nominee at the Chicago convention in June, and would be elected in November.

Representative Smith, of California, yesterday introduced a bill providing that widows of civil war veterans shall not lose their pensions by marriage to surviving veterans of the civil war.

Monday, January 20.

Washington, Jan. 20.—The senate devoted over two hours to considering the bill revising the criminal laws of the United States.

The senate adopted a resolution offered by Tillman directing the secretary of the treasury to send to the senate a statement showing the number of national banks placed in the hands of receivers as insolvent since January 1, 1903, the capital stock of each, the names of the receivers and their compensation and the names of all attorneys or special employes under them.

Senator Fulton secured favorable report on his bill to divide Oregon into two judicial districts, one east of the Cascades and one west. Later the bill passed the senate.

Secretary Cortelyou asked more time to report on the various bond issues. Senator Fulton today introduced a bill appropriating \$250,000 to reimburse the Sherman county settlers for land and improvements of which they were dispossessed by the decision of the Supreme court.

The senate today passed Senator Fulton's bill conferring jurisdiction upon

Strengthens Land Fraud Law.

Washington, Jan. 23.—A bill designed to amend the statute relative to the entry of public lands in such manner as to legalize affidavits made in connection with Interior department regulations will be introduced in the senate by a member of the committee on judiciary. Officials of the Interior department have communicated the need of this amendment, which they believe will assist the department in the prosecution of land frauds.

the Ninth Circuit Federal court to determine in equity the rights of American citizens under the Behring sea arbitration and render judgment thereon.

Washington, Jan. 20.—Unrestrained opportunity to express views on the immigration question was afforded members of the house today by the decision to take up and consider a bill appropriating \$250,000 for an immigration station in Philadelphia and so many took advantage of it that the code of laws bill, which the managers had planned to take up, was side tracked for the day.

The discussion of the immigration station bill opened up the whole subject of immigration and excited the interest of the entire house. Members from both sides of the chamber clamored for recognition, which carried with it the right to speak for an hour, if so desired.

The debate was notable in that it was indulged in largely by members serving their first terms, who found in the bill a chance to make their maiden efforts at speech making on the floor of the house. The entire session was devoted to a consideration of the bill, which was passed.

Thursday, January 16.

Washington, Jan. 16.—A complete change of front was exhibited by the majority in the house of representatives today in the consideration of the bill to codify and revise the penal laws of the United States. The pacific spirit displayed by the committee on revision of laws toward the close of yesterday's session, when it appeared as though the several amendments strengthening certain provisions of the bill regarding corruption in the appointment of persons to public offices would be adopted, had vanished today and instead every inch of ground was fought over to keep amendments out of the bill. When adjournment was taken, only six additional pages had been disposed of and but one or two verbal amendments by the committee had been inserted.

A resolution was adopted that the house convene at 9 a. m. instead of 12, and remain in session until 6 p. m. Lunch hour to be from 1 to 2.

Washington, Jan. 16.—Senator Fulton has introduced a bill appropriating \$250,000 for a revenue cutter for the Portland station. The bill has the approval of the Treasury department.

A resolution was passed declaring that no communication from heads of departments would be received unless sent in compliance of law or transmitted by the president.

Carter, of Montana, opposes giving public land to the states for various purposes.

A bill has been introduced creating a bureau of mining.

The senate calendar was cleared of nearly every bill upon it today and the bill to revise the criminal laws of the United States was taken up and discussed until adjournment, which was taken at 4:30 until Monday.

MAY SKIP BUENOS AYRES TRIP

Probable Torpedo Flotilla Will Go Direct From Rio.

Washington, Jan. 20.—It seems probable now that the torpedo boat flotilla on its way to the Pacific will not pay a visit to Buenos Ayres, as was intended. According to the original plan, the flotilla was to proceed from Rio Janeiro to Montevideo. Now, however, as the flotilla is said to be three days behind its itinerary, it is probable that the entire cruise up the River Plate will be cut out and without stopping at either Montevideo or Buenos Ayres the little vessels will try to make the run from Rio Janeiro to Sandy Point, in the straits of Magellan. The torpedo boats will thus be given a thorough test of their ability to make a long distance run and will also be able to catch up with their schedule and accompany the battleships in the passage of the straits of Magellan, as desired by Admiral Evans.

Give Warning Before Firing.

Washington, Jan. 21.—J. N. Leger, the minister from Haiti, had a long talk with Assistant Secretary Bacon today in regard to the Haytian revolutionary movement. He said a reasonable warning would be granted before the bombardment of the ports of Gonaives and St. Marc, now occupied by the insurgents, which the government has threatened. Mr. Leger says the bombardment will be directed against the positions occupied by the insurgents and not necessarily against the towns.

Roosevelt Upholds Fisk.

Washington, Jan. 21.—Arthur Fisk has been re-nominated postmaster of San Francisco by President Roosevelt, according to an announcement made today by Postmaster General Meyer. The United States senate will not be asked to confirm the nomination, however, until certain charges that will be made against Fisk have been disposed of. Congressman Kahn, of California, is strongly opposing any action tending toward Fisk's re-nomination.

Give Coal Roads a Chance.

Washington, Jan. 22.—At the Department of Justice today it was announced that if the coal carrying roads agree to comply with the decision of the Supreme court of the United States on the constitutionality of the provisions of the Hepburn law prohibiting transportation companies from owning and operating coal properties after May 1, it will not prosecute such companies pending adjudication of the case by the Supreme court.

POLITICS FIGURE LARGELY.

Heny Tells Sensational Story in His Opening Statement.

Portland, Jan. 17.—In his opening address in the Hall-Mays conspiracy trial yesterday, Francis J. Heney charged that:

Hall wanted reappointment as United States district attorney and sought election of Senators Mitchell and Fulton to that end.

He forced State Senator W. W. Steiwer to vote for Fulton in February, 1903, by threatening Steiwer and others with criminal prosecution (Hall then being United States district attorney) for illegal forcing of public lands.

Fulton was a party to this deal with Steiwer and used his influence in Steiwer's behalf to cause Hall to institute civil proceedings against Steiwer instead of criminal.

Brownell wanted to succeed Hall and had pledged of support from Mitchell and Fulton. Hall forced Brownell to retire and so to notify Mitchell and Fulton, by threatening Brownell with prosecution for acknowledging forged land papers, for which Brownell later was indicted through Heney.

Hall threatened Hermann, Williamson and Mitchell with land-fraud indictment if they did not secure his re-appointment.

Hall had agreement with Steiwer, Zachary and Hendricks by which he allowed them to maintain their illegal fences, this being the alleged conspiracy.

Hall says he and Mays will both take the stand in their own defense.

L. R. Webster, attorney for Hall, said that when his client first learned of the illegal fences in 1901, he notified Steiwer, et al., that they must not fence government land. Webster denied that Hall was actuated by ulterior motives, politics or other.

Witnesses Putnam and King testified that they informed Hall by letter of the fences as early as March, 1900. The fences were not removed until 1905, after Hall was ousted from office.

INVESTIGATE HARRIMAN.

California Will Probe Into Actions of Southern Pacific.

San Francisco, Jan. 17.—After 29 years of quiescent obedience, the state board of railroad commissioners flew full into the face of the Southern Pacific company today and ordered a searching investigation into the rebating proclivities of the Harriman lines, the Santa Fe and the Salt Lake road. At the same time the board, with the assistance of Attorney General Webb, passed the responsibility for efficacious action to the door of Governor Gillett. It lies with the chief executive to authorize the expenditure of the money that such an investigation will cost, and Mr. Gillett has no alternative but to choose squarely between the people and the railroads.

The sudden awakening of the board has developed a unique situation. The state railroad commission has always been the object of tender care on the part of William F. Herrin. Now the commission has suddenly decided to put Mr. Herrin and his associates on the carpet.

SEEKS TO RETAIN TROOPS.

Nevada Legislators Are Unanimous in Approving Policy.

Carson City, Nev., Jan. 17.—At the afternoon session of the assembly yesterday a resolution which passed the senate in the morning, petitioning the president to retain the troops temporarily, passed without a negative vote. There was no argument on either side as to the merits of the measure. Governor Sparks was at the speaker's desk, and as he came into the hall was greeted with applause.

Speaker Skaggs, who has opposed the governor in the matter of calling troops to Nevada, left the chair and Speaker Pro Tem Folsom placed the motion before the house. Skaggs failed to vote on the measure, absenting himself at roll call. The governor is receiving congratulations from both parties since the passage of the bill. There was a meeting of the joint committee this afternoon in reference to taking up a measure for policing the state. It is likely that this measure will be introduced by Monday.

Wants Hearings Changed.

Washington, Jan. 17.—Representative Humphrey, of Washington, re-introduced a bill of last session providing for the hearing of Alaska appeals at either Seattle, Portland or San Francisco, instead of merely at the California city as at present. Mr. Humphrey does not expect the same trouble that was encountered last year, although Representative Kahn, of California, has asserted his intention of fighting the bill. Mr. Kahn claims that the majority of appeals from Alaska are matters of California interest.

Opium Shipments Light.

Port Townsend, Wash., Jan. 17.—Among the interesting features of the business of the last year, transacted by officials of the Puget sound customs districts is the showing that for the entire period importations of opium reached the insignificant total of 238 pounds. The district is presumed to cover practically all of the output of British Columbia refineries which operate on a large scale. The light shipment is regarded as suspicious.

New Express Rates.

Jefferson City, Mo., Jan. 17.—The new schedule of express rates recently agreed upon by the board of railway commissioners and the express companies doing business in Missouri, goes into effect today. In round figures the schedule provides for an average reduction of 21 per cent.

DEFENSE IS FIGHTING

Hall and Mays Trial Making but Little Progress.

HENEY IS MOVING WITH CAUTION

Session Largely Given Up to Reading of Letters Said to Show Conspiracy.

Portland, Jan. 18.—The government yesterday continued laying the foundation of the case against John H. Hall and Edwin Mays.

Heny introduced some 50 letters, written from June, 1900, to September, 1902., by Hall, Mays, Loomis, Stratford and Putnam. More such letters will follow today.

Hall objected seriously to only one letter, written by Secretary Hitchcock to Special Inspector A. R. Greene, directing Greene to investigate the fences. Heney's purpose is to show that this investigation was prompted by settlers, who had appealed vainly to Hall to act against the fences. Hall objects to the letter because a copy and not the original letter has been offered and because it is irrelevant. Judge Hunt will decide the questions this morning.

Unlike Hall, Mays raised numerous objections in the course of the day. The steps in the government's evidence of conspiracy will be about as follows:

First—To prove Hall and Mays had frequent knowledge from protesting settlers of the fences as early as March, 1900.

Second—That Steiwer, Zachary and Hendricks caused various persons to file on land for their company, in order to complete the company's enclosure of public land.

Third—That Hall and Mays took no steps to prosecute the offenders, though they had full knowledge of the fencing and the conspiracy for more than three years.

At this stage, Steiwer is expected to testify about the alleged understanding by which Hall and Mays were not to prosecute him and his associates. One of the terms of this alleged agreement was Steiwer's vote for Fulton.

George Brownell is expected to testify that Hall promised him immunity from land fraud prosecution for his withdrawal from the contest for Hall's office.

TENANTS IN RIOTS.

Object to Paying More Than Rate They Fix Themselves.

New York, Jan. 18.—Forceful resistance by tenants whom an Upper East Side landlord was trying to evict resulted yesterday in the gathering of a crowd of two thousand or more sympathizers in the neighborhood, who made so much trouble for the police that the precinct reserves were called out. During the rioting four women and a number of men were taken into custody.

The riotous demonstration began when a city marshal and about 25 assistants visited the block on the south side of East One Hundred and Fourth street, between First and Second avenues, with 80 dispossess warrants for families who had unilaterally demanded reductions in rents of a dollar a month and had refused to pay the landlord's collector more than the new rate they had fixed. The taking out of the furniture from the rooms of the first family visited was the signal for an attack on the marshal and his men by scores of tenants.

Angry women surrounded a patrolman who had gone to the marshal's assistance and had half torn his coat from his back when assistance arrived. He arrested four women. Several demonstrative men were also sent to the station house. The police were by this time struggling with little success to disperse an increasing crowd of angry demonstrators, but other arrests by the officers finally had the effect of putting a stop to the trouble.

The immediate purpose of the demonstration was effected, the marshal deciding not to attempt the serving of more dispossess warrants at this time.

Will Cut Off Opium Supply.

Washington, Jan. 18.—Within a little over a month the law prohibiting the importation of opium into the Philippines will become effective. A large quantity of opium is consumed in the islands, mainly by the Chinese element. Congress has passed an act intended to correct the evil, but there is great doubt of the ability of the confirmed opium user to abandon the drug, and a considerable agitation has been taking place in the Philippines, with the object of securing an extension of time for the stoppage of the traffic.

Deny Sulphur Injures Fruit.

San Francisco, Jan. 18.—At the state convention of California fruit growers today a committee of seven was appointed to go to Washington to protest against and secure a modification of the rule covering the use of sulphur in bleaching and drying fruits. In resolutions and speeches it was stated that the use of sulphur was not deleterious to the public health and that the drying of fruits by artificial heat and evaporation was impracticable in this state.

Warships Sail for Magdalena.

San Diego, Cal., Jan. 18.—All that was left here of the Pacific squadron sailed this morning for Magdalena, to remain for six or seven weeks, indulging in target practice.