

INCREASE IN FORCES

Railroads Must Put On Large Forces of Laborers.

SIXTY AMERICANS FIRST CHOICE

At Least 250,000 Men Needed to Repair Ravages of Winter—Labor is Cheap.

Chicago, March 31.—In the next 60 days the railroads of the United States will have to find between 250,000 and 300,000 men to mend their tracks and roadbeds and another large army to go into their shops and repair their cars and their locomotives.

The railroads centering in Chicago alone will, between April 1 and June 1, require more than 100,000 laborers, who will be employed in remedying the ravages of the winter months, which, with their frosts and their snows, have made many miles of shabby track and as many more of softened roadbed.

The past winter has not been as hard as the season usually is on roadbed and track, and physical conditions are not as bad as usual for the further reason that the traffic has not been so heavy. No renewal work, however, is being done this winter, and after the spring comes out of the ground in the spring there is bound to be settling of the roadbed, sagging of bridges and a score of things which go to prevent efficiency of operation.

In the employment of labor the railroads seek to procure Americans when they can get them at the price which is offered for labor. As a rule, however, the railroads are glad to get men wherever it is possible, the only stipulation with the labor employing agencies being that the men shall be competent to do the work for which they are employed.

MANY MINERS QUIT.

Men Lay Down Their Tools Although No Strike.

Indianapolis, March 31.—The union miners of the Fields company will lay down picks and shovels tonight. Almost 250,000 of them will stop work in Western Pennsylvania, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Arkansas, Texas, Michigan, West Virginia and Kentucky. The conditions under which they are working expires tonight and, except in Central Pennsylvania and Indiana block district, no conditions have been made, nor have the miners entered into district agreements providing for the operation pending the April 1 agreement.

Technically the miners will not go out on strike, but in reality they stop work because the operators, except in Indiana and Illinois, show no real intention of meeting and treating with them, though no question of wages or principle is at stake.

ALWAYS LIKED HIM.

Kaiser Says Gossip Greatly Exaggerated Hill Incident.

Washington, March 31.—With a view to bringing to a close the gossip connected with the reported disapproval in Berlin of the appointment of Dr. David Jayne Hill as ambassador, and terminating the incident, Baron von Sternberg, the German ambassador, called at the White House today by appointment to see President Roosevelt and Secretary Root. Assistant Secretary Bacon was also present. At the conclusion of the conference the following statement was given out:

"In addition to the communication already made public from the Foreign office, the German ambassador has also conveyed to the American government the assurances of the emperor that there has never been any change in his attitude toward Mr. Hill, and his cordial willingness to welcome Mr. Hill to Berlin. The emperor's favorable opinion of Mr. Hill was communicated to the Washington administration last November, and his attitude has never changed since."

Defraud United States.

Helena, March 31.—What promises to be the most sensational case tried here in many years was begun today in the Federal court, when Oliver C. Dallas, John D. McLeod and A. S. Hovey were placed on trial on a charge of conspiring to defraud the United States. Three overt actions are alleged in each of the two counts—that falsified notes were forged; that affidavits purporting to be that of deputy mineral surveyors were forged, and that the notes and affidavits were presented to the surveyor general for official approval.

Harriman to Resume Work.

Ogden, Utah, March 31.—The Utah Construction company has been instructed by the Harriman officials to resume grading a line from Huntington to Homestead, Baker county, Or. This work was halted last fall at the beginning of the financial flurry, and the order to commence activity is looked upon as an encouraging sign of returning confidence in railroad quarters. The road to Homestead is the first link in a cutoff into Lewiston, Idaho.

Cut In 80,000 Millhands' Wages.

Boston, March 31.—The general reduction of 10 per cent in the wages of New England cotton mill operatives which was recently decided upon, became effective yesterday in mills employing 80,000 persons. Next Monday the movement will apply to the pay of many more.

EXPLOSION IN MINE.

Men Fighting Fire Caught in Underground Workings.

Butte, Mont., March 30.—A special to the Miner from Hanna, Wyo., says: This camp was visited by another big holocaust Saturday afternoon and the lives of 20 men were snuffed out by an explosion of gas in Mine No. 1, of the Union Pacific Coal company.

A fire had been raging below the 10th level since last Saturday, and the force of 200 miners had been laid off for the day as a precaution. Superintendent Alexander Briggs and Foremen Joseph Burton, Alfred Dodds, James Knox, of Mines 1, 2, and 3, with a crew of 16 or 17 men, all experienced miners, with gas men and fire-fighters, went down into the workings early in the morning to fight the conflagration, which was rapidly eating its way through the workings.

At 2 o'clock the men above the workings, the idle men in the homes and the townspeople were startled by an awful roar, followed by a heavy boom and the shaking of earth and trembling of buildings.

All knew what had happened, and there was a rush to the mine. Both entrances had caved in, and the nine timbers had been blown great distances about the outside workings.

The second explosion was more severe than the first, being felt in all parts of the town, and it is feared that 50 to 60 names have been added to the death list.

BOMB FOR WELLS.

Attempt Made to Blow Up Manager of Telluride Mine.

Telluride, Colo., March 30.—Eluding the night guard stationed at the Smuggler-Union mine, at Pandora, two miles south of Telluride, and the searchlight which is constantly thrown about the premises during the night from the high tower of the mill as a precautionary measure, an unknown person gained access to the residence of General Bulkley Wells, general manager of the Smuggler-Union Mining company, Saturday night and planted dynamite under his bed. The dynamite was exploded by lighting a fuse on the outside of the building about 2 o'clock Sunday morning when the intended victim was asleep. He was hurled against the ceiling and alighted under a mass of debris, but escaped with some scratches and bruises and impaired hearing.

Although a systematic search has been made by Sheriff Fitzpatrick and deputies, aided by hundreds of citizens, no clue has been found to the perpetrator of the deed. One man who is charged with having said that Wells would be killed has been arrested.

General Wells took a leading part in the suppression of labor troubles in this state in 1904 and 1905, and was prominently identified with the recent prosecution of the officers of the Western Federation of Miners at Boise on the charge of complicity in the assassination of ex-Governor Frank Steunenberg, of Idaho.

HAS MODIFIED ITS RULING.

Interstate Commission Will Re-open Portland Gateway.

San Francisco, March 30.—A telegram was received at the general office of the Southern Pacific company in this city today from Charles S. Fee, passenger traffic manager, who is at present in Chicago, announcing that the recent action of the Interstate Commerce commission, which was interpreted as closing the Portland gateway and necessitating a higher passenger rate by the Southern Pacific to Seattle and other Northern points, via Portland, has been modified. The objection of the commission, it appears, related only to the manner of publishing through rates, and revised tariffs conforming to the commission's wishes will be issued as soon as possible.

This new ruling will be received with great satisfaction in Portland, which was being adversely affected by the higher passenger rates charged from the East to Seattle via Portland than were charged to Seattle over the Great Northern. The Southern Pacific is equally pleased, for it has been known that its earnings and prestige have suffered by the ruling which has now been modified.

Evans' Illness Causes Alarm.

San Diego, Cal., March 30.—The news that the flagship Connecticut had been detached from the fleet at Magdalena bay to bring Admiral Evans to San Francisco for a course of treatment at San Luis Obispo was received here with considerable apprehension. Reassuring reports have been coming from Magdalena bay during the past ten days, but the fact that it is deemed necessary to bring him north two weeks in advance of the fleet is taken to indicate that his condition is not all that could be wished for.

English Hooen Protest.

Worcester, England, March 30.—A largely attended meeting of hopgrowers was held in this city this afternoon and a resolution was passed protesting indignantly against what was described as the "dumping of America's surplus hops in this country." Enormous quantities of hops are said to be due to arrive here in a few days. They are being offered at from 18½ to 25 shillings a hundred weight, which is less than half the English price.

Alabama Law is Killed.

Montgomery, Ala., March 30.—Judge Thomas G. Jones, of the United States court, today held the Alabama penalty railroad laws unconstitutional; also that the suits brought by the railroads are not in violation of the eleventh constitutional amendment, not being suits against the state. Several of the minor claims were also declared to be invalid.

DOINGS OF THE SIXTIETH CONGRESS

Wednesday, April 1.

Washington, April 1.—Senator Heyburn's three-day filibuster to defeat Representative Jones' bill authorizing the Benton Water company to dam Snake river at Three-Mile rapids ended in utter rout this afternoon, the senate turning him down by a vote of 47 to 4.

The passage of this bill and the consideration of a measure for adjudicating the claims of states against the government on account of the disposition of the proceeds of public lands occupied nearly the entire session of the senate today.

Washington, April 1.—Debate on the agricultural appropriation bill was devoid of the charges and imputations which marked its consideration on Monday and Tuesday. More progress was made with the measure than on any previous day, and the indications are that it will finally get through tomorrow.

Today's discussion dwelt on a proposition for an increased appropriation for the farmers' bulletins, which, however, was refused, and the subject of inquiries into road-building, etc., by the department, the trend of opinion being that such work should be encouraged.

Tuesday, March 31.

Washington, March 31.—The alleged tendency of the general government to override the powers of the states of the Union and to ignore the restrictions of the constitution was the subject of remarks by Teller, of Colorado, in the senate today. He declared that there had grown up a practice of attempting to justify any act by the Federal authorities, whether there was authority for it or not, so long as it was ascribed to the public interest.

The remainder of the day was devoted to discussion of the Benton dam bill on its merits. Heyburn and Borah, both of Idaho, took opposing sides. Heyburn opposing and Borah favoring. Heyburn declared he would maintain his position, even if satisfied that by so doing he would imperil his seat in the senate. No vote had been reached when the senate adjourned.

Washington, March 31.—After having undergone many changes, the paragraph of the agricultural appropriation bill relating to the bureau of forestry was finally passed by the house of representatives.

An amendment by Humphreys, of Wisconsin, to increase by \$163,460 the appropriation for soil investigations provoked a long debate. After many five-minute speeches had been made for and against the proposition, it was carried, 100 to 88.

The bill was laid aside less than half completed, and the house adjourned.

Monday, March 30.

Washington, March 30.—The objection of the president to the construction of dams across navigable rivers by private companies, except when the public interest is fully guaranteed, figured in the consideration of a house bill in the senate today. This bill proposes to authorize the Benton Water company to construct a dam across Snake river, in the state of Washington.

The urgent deficiency bill, appropriating \$2,000,000 for armor, etc., for vessels heretofore authorized, was passed. On motion of Warren, \$50,000 was added for mileage of officers and contract surgeons of the army when authorized by law.

A bill regulating the sale of liquor in licensed taverns in Alaska was passed. It forbids gambling in places in which liquor is sold. Perkins said that in the days of prohibition in Alaska there was much smuggling and illicit selling of liquor.

Washington, March 30.—Charges of a serious nature against Gifford Pinchot, chief of the forestry bureau, were made today in the house by Smith, of California, and Mowdell, of Wyoming, during consideration of the agricultural bill. Smith accused him of entering into a secret understanding with the city of Los Angeles, with a view to securing to the city valuable water rights in the Owens river valley, as against the interests of private parties having prior claims. Mowdell denounced him for, as he charged, illegally paying the expenses of forest officials in attending conventions in the West, in which the government had no part, and also for spending government money to boost his bureau in the newspapers. Mr. Pinchot was defended by Pollard, of Nebraska, and Scott, of Kansas.

Smith, of California, denounced the forestry service for attempting to acquire the Owens valley in California.

Saturday, March 28.

Washington, March 28.—But little progress was made in the house today in considering the agricultural bill. The discussion dwelt mainly upon the proposed establishment of Federal standards of cotton grades and Federal inspection of grains. Mr. Crumpacker and others opposed a section providing for the establishment of Federal laboratories for examination of samples of

Spencer for the Netherlands.

Washington, April 2.—Spencer Eddy, the Chicago man who has for many months been an attaché of the American legation in London and who recently married Miss Spreckels, daughter of John D. Spreckels, was today nominated by President Roosevelt for minister to the Netherlands. His headquarters will be in Luxembourg. Eddy is a brother-in-law of Senator Eddy, of Indiana, who married his sister.

seed or grain.

The clause of the section providing that the reports made as result of such laboratorial examinations "shall serve as a basis for the fixing of definite grades, such grades to become the official standards for the grading of grains" was stricken out on a point of order after a lively debate.

The section was then adopted as amended.

Friday, March 27.

Washington, March 27.—The Aldrich bill was passed by the senate today by a vote of 42 to 16, in the main a party vote. Previous to the taking of the vote on the Aldrich bill, a vote was taken on the Bailey substitute authorizing the government, instead of the national banks, to issue the emergency circulation for which the bill provides. The vote on the substitute stood 42 to 13, and this vote was entirely partisan, even La Follette casting his vote with the Republicans. The bill has been before the senate since January 2. The vote was not reported until after 6 p. m. and the galleries were practically empty.

As passed, the bill provides for not more than \$500,000,000 of emergency currency to be issued to national banks upon the deposit by them of state, county and municipal bonds to be approved by the secretary of the treasury. The currency is to be issued with a view of securing an equitable distribution of the currency over the United States, and in accordance with the unimpaired capital and surplus of banks in each state. Banks are to pay for this emergency circulation one-half of one per cent a month during the first four months it is circulated and afterward three-quarters of one per cent a month.

The bill provides that national banks shall not pay less than 1 per cent on government funds deposited with them.

As amended today, the bill carries an important change in banking laws relating to bank reserves. This amendment provides that of the 15 per cent reserve required to be kept by banks not in reserve cities, four-fifths is to be kept in the vaults of the banks, and of that amount one-third can be in the form of securities of the kind required.

Washington, March 27.—The house passed 360 private pension bills, at the rate of ten a minute.

An urgent deficiency appropriation bill appropriating \$3,000,000 for carrying on the work of the Washington naval gun factory was passed.

Thursday, March 26.

Washington, March 26.—Although the senate met today with the intention of devoting the entire time of the session to the currency bill, the credentials of Senator-elect John Walter Smith, of Maryland, early became the subject of a discussion that consumed nearly four hours and destroyed all hope of disposing of the currency bill before adjournment today.

The result of the debate on the propriety of swearing in Mr. Smith was a vote of 34 to 39 in favor of receiving his credentials and leaving the regularity of his election to be considered by the committee on privileges and elections, and by the senate later.

Washington, March 26.—More shafts of sarcasm and invective were aimed at President Roosevelt in the house of representatives today. In one of the most scathing arraignments of a public officer ever heard in that chamber, Beall, of Texas, charged the president with having been guilty of "a disgusting usurpation of power," not only toward the national legislature, but the judiciary as well.

When the agricultural appropriation bill was read for amendment today, Macon, of Arkansas, endeavored to have inserted as a new provision his bill prohibiting the dealing in futures in agricultural products, but the chair sustained a point of order against it. Scott, of Kansas, in charge of the bill, expressed his entire sympathy with the proposition which, however, he insisted should be acted on independently.

On a point of order the several new stations were stricken from the bill. These stations were proposed to be located in Texas, Kansas, Virginia, Michigan, Vermont, Missouri and Indiana.

Continue Work in Valley.

Washington, March 31.—The agricultural appropriation bill reported to the house on March 11 contains an item of \$150,000 for irrigation and drainage investigations, to be carried out by the office of experiment stations, under Dr. A. C. True, director of that office. During the past year a large part of this appropriations has been spent in Oregon, the work carried on being in the Willamette valley, under the direction of A. P. Stover, whose headquarters have been in Portland.

Abolish Capital Punishment.

Washington, March 31.—A bill to abolish capital punishment in the District of Columbia has been introduced in the house by Mr. Scott, of Kansas.

Test Commodity Clause.

Washington, April 1.—The government will not prosecute for failure to comply with the "commodity clause" of the railroad rate law, pending a decision of the Supreme court. The president has directed the Department of Justice to bring a test case as soon as possible after it becomes effective, the law forbidding any railroad to transport any article or commodity other than timber produced by such road, or in which it is interested.

HELD FOR MURDER.

Formal Charge Filed Against Slayer of Stevens.

San Francisco, March 27.—In. When Chang and Ming Wun Chun, the Korean patriots who elected to kill Durham W. Stevens for what they believed to be treachery to the Hermit Kingdom, were this morning charged with murder. They must face trial for their deed in the courts of this city. Held in detention pending the struggle for life which the courageous diplomat made, the two men were charged on the police blotter as soon as news of the end was conveyed to police headquarters.

In When Chang, the Korean who fired the shots which proved fatal to Stevens, when informed last night at the jail of his victim's death, received the news without surprise and with manifest delight. Since the day of the shooting Chang has been expressing the hope that Stevens' wounds might prove fatal. Last night, when asked if he was sorry for what he had done, Chang said: "No; I am glad. He was no friend of Corea, and he is better dead."

There is a movement on foot among the Japanese to erect a monument to Stevens. Japanese commenced going about among their fellow countrymen this morning broaching the idea and suggesting that subscriptions be forthcoming. The proposition is still in the tentative stage, but, judging from the feeling the Japanese show toward the dead American, there will be no difficulty in bringing it to accomplishment. Whether the monument shall be erected in this city, in Tokio or in Seoul, the theater of Stevens' services to Japan, has not yet been decided.

CITY ROBBED WHOLESALE.

Immense Frauds Discovered in Chicago Water Department.

Chicago, March 27.—An amazing system of robbery and graft, involving city employees and big business firms, and extending back through several years, has been discovered in the water department. Two employes, including a division head, were removed, and 38 subordinate employes will be discharged. Some of them may be indicted.

Through tampering with meters and the connivance of city employes, several large corporations have defrauded the city of hundreds of thousands of dollars in water taxes. City employes have sold meters to junk dealers and bartered materials for drinks in saloons.

The payrolls were padded with idlers and incompetents. The force, which originally numbered 200 men, was reduced by Superintendent W. J. McCourt, of the water bureau, to 50.

TROOPS ORDERED OUT.

Striking Alaska Miners May Destroy Property.

Seattle, Wash., March 27.—Troops have been ordered from Fort Seward, at Haines, Alaska, to preserve order at the Treadwell mines, on Douglass island, where 800 miners have gone on a strike. The troops are due to arrive at Treadwell early tomorrow morning, and serious trouble is anticipated. United States Marshal Shoup, who has just returned from Washington, left for the scene of the trouble, on receipt of dispatches from his chief deputy.

The miners have threatened to blow up the works if troops are landed on the island. They stole 10 kegs of dynamite today from the mine stores.

Colonel Green, in command of one company of the Tenth infantry, left Haines tonight with a gatling gun, and should reach the mines at an early hour this morning. The other companies stationed at Fort Seward have been ordered to be in readiness to reinforce the first company if needed.

Just before his departure for Juneau at 9 o'clock last night, Marshal Shoup received a message from his chief deputy that no serious disturbances have occurred, but trouble of a serious nature is anticipated when the troops are landed on the island in the morning.

Bribery is Charged.

San Francisco, March 27.—Tonight it was learned that the new grand jury which today heard the testimony of many of the witnesses who appeared before the Oliver grand jury, when Patrick Calhoun, T. L. Ford, George M. Abbott, ex-Mayor E. E. Schmitz and Abraham Ruef were indicted on many counts for bribery in the granting of the United railroads trolley franchise, have voted to bring three joint indictments for the same offenses against Calhoun, Ford and Ruef. Schmitz is left out of the new indictments.

Does Not Want Hill.

Berlin, March 27.—The German government has informed President Roosevelt that Dr. David J. Hill, at present American minister at the Hague, is not acceptable to it as ambassador at Berlin. Charlemagne Tower, the present ambassador, declined today to either confirm or deny this statement. From other sources it was learned that the grounds are that Dr. Hill is not representative enough for the United States to send to Germany.

More Warships to Hayti.

Washington, March 27.—Two additional war vessels were ordered to Hayti today following a conference of officials of the State and Navy departments. The Des Moines already had been sent to the scene of the recent outbreak. The two vessels dispatched today are the gunboats Marietta and Paducah, both of which have been at Guantana, mo, Cuba, preparing for target practice.

CITY IS DESTROYED

Heavy Earthquake Followed by Fire in Mexico.

NO LOSS OF LIFE IS REPORTED

Thirty-four Shocks Recorded Within Twenty-four Hours at Mexican National Observatory.

Mexico, City, March 28.—Chilapa, a town of 15,000 inhabitants in the state of Guerrero, has been shaken by an earthquake and burned.

The shocks, two in number, occurred early last evening and were followed by fire, which originating in a dozen places among the tumbling buildings, joined in a conflagration that swept the town.

Governor Damian Flores, chief executive of the state of Guerrero, who is at present in this city, had at 9 o'clock this evening just received the first official advices from Chilapa. The message says that, although a number of the buildings of the town were leveled to the ground, no lives were lost. The police quarters and the mayor's office were destroyed and the jail badly damaged. Great fires were made in the streets and open fields.

In the neighboring town of Ometepec the jail was destroyed and 30 prisoners made their escape. Troops are guarding the public buildings that are standing in Chilapa, but perfect order prevails.

Later returns from Chilapa show, however, that the dispatch received by Governor Flores was ultra conservative. The town was practically destroyed, though no lives were lost. Most of the buildings that were leveled were residences.

Thirty-four shocks have been recorded during the past 24 hours by the seismograph at the national observatory at Tabayuca. Most of these shocks, however, were imperceptible except to the delicate needle of the instrument.

NORTH POLE IS SHIFTING.

Making America Warmer and Siberia Colder.

Victoria, B. C., March 28.—That the north pole is shifting and the climate is changing, making the Northern territories of this continent warmer and Northern Asia colder, is the theory to support which Mose B. Cotworth, of York, England, has been gathering evidence in Alaska, from where he has returned on his way to England.

A curious effect of this change, it is said, may be a number of boundary difficulties between Canada and the United States, especially in the Eastern portion. This boundary is fixed by latitude, and if the north pole is really moving, the latitudes change also, rendering it advisable that the boundary be speedily marked everywhere by permanent monuments, where it has not yet been so marked already.

The movement, Cotworth says, is caused by the immense accumulations of ice along the Canadian shore of the Arctic ocean, and especially in Baffin's land and Greenland.

MINERS HELD IN CHECK.

Peace Committee Restrains Strikers From Rioting.

Juneau, Alaska, March 28.—Although there has been no violence as yet at the Treadwell mines, the 800 men on a strike are only prevented from making an outbreak by the commission of 20 men from the union who have been called the peace committee.

The tension is so high that the least word will bring about trouble. The union leaders have asked the men to refrain from drinking, but idleness is irksome and the men are chafing under the delay of a settlement, especially in view of the fact that the company has declared that never again will there be any of the present leaders employed by the company.

Find More Gold in Alaska.

Seattle, Wash., March 28.—A special cable to the Times from Valdez, Alaska, states that men just in from the Gulkana diggings, towards which the latest stampede is directed, report another big strike there. The claim owners have been working a tunnel all winter, and they are now in ground said to be running \$20 to the pan. On the strength of this news, Peter Monahan, original locator of the New Goldconda, and owner of its best claims, spent \$1,500 for wine, treating, when he heard the report.

Tourist Rates to the Coast.

St. Paul, Minn., March 28.—The passenger officials of the Northern and Pacific and Soo roads will make special summer tourist rates of \$60 for the regular trip from the Twin Cities to Seattle, Tacoma, Portland and other North Pacific Coast points. This puts the northern lines on a par with the southern lines, which have granted special rates to California points. The regular trip from Chicago to North Coast cities via the Twin Cities will be \$72.50.

Great Strike is Ordered.

Kansas City, March 28.—Thirty five thousand members of the United Mine-workers of America, employed in districts Nos. 4, 21 and 25, comprising Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas, will go on strike April 1, following a decision reached at meetings of division vice presidents held here today.