

PAINT AND POLISH

Jackies Preparing Atlantic Fleet for Grand Parade.

INSPECTION IS MADE BY DIVERS

Find Bottoms of Many Ships Nearly As Clean As When They Left Hampton Roads.

Magdalena, Bay, April 7.—(Via San Diego)—The work of preparing for the California reception, now but ten days distant, is already in progress among the battleships of the Atlantic fleet. Every ship not engaged in coaling or working on the torpedo range is undergoing a thorough scrubbing, scraping and painting from the water line to the mastsheads. Every inch of the surface of the ships will be gone over and cleaned and polished. Divers have been sent over the side of each ship and have made thorough inspections of the bottoms.

Many of the vessels are nearly as clean as when they left Hampton Roads, according to the reports of the divers. The long time spent at anchorage in the bay has done more to foul the bottoms than the trip around the Horn.

The work of coaling for the final leg of the long voyage is being pushed with all speed. Last night the crew of the Maine worked all night taking coal from a collier alongside and stowing it away in the bunkers.

Admiral Thomas has issued a tentative program for the fleet for the dates April 11 to April 19, which includes the departure of the fleet from Magdalena at same hour not yet fixed on April 11 and its arrival at San Diego at 1 p. m. April 14. The program quotes from the official program of the reception committee in San Diego, giving the details for the four days the ships will be in port there.

Admiral Thomas has also issued a lengthy detailed order, on the formation of a brigade of sailors and marines, for parade duty in San Diego, San Francisco and other cities. It provides for the formation of a fleet naval brigade of more than 5,000 men. The total is made of 64 companies of blue jackets, four from each ship, and 16 companies of marines or one from each ship.

STREETS RUN BLOOD.

Seven Are Killed and 100 Wounded in Lisbon Election Riots.

Lisbon, April 7.—Seven persons were shot to death and 100 others wounded by soldiers last evening, after the voting in the elections in this city had ended. The rioting was widespread and such was the confusion during the violent conflict between the populace and the municipal government that the guardsmen, mistaking the infantry who had been called out for rioters, fired a volley into their ranks, seriously wounding three of the soldiers.

The night was one of terror for Lisbon, which seemed suddenly aflame with revolt. Bands of men ran wildly through the streets, brandishing weapons, while the sharp crack of rifles was heard in various sections.

Lisbon remains practically an armed camp. Large numbers have been arrested. The people are now in a state of feverish unrest and it is feared there may be a recurrence of the bloodshed.

WOMEN CARRY ON WORK.

Chinese Boycott Against Japanese Goods Spreading Rapidly.

Canton, April 7.—The boycott against the Japanese arising out of the trouble between Japan and China over the seizure and subsequent release of the Tatsu Maru, is spreading rapidly. Mass meetings have been held with the object of impressing upon the Chinese the necessity of making the boycott of Japanese products and manufacturers as far reaching as possible.

Despite a torrential rain today more than 1,000 women dressed in white as an emblem of mourning attended a meeting held for this purpose.

Trophy for Best Record.

Seattle, April 7.—A special to the Times from Spokane, says that when the Atlantic fleet reaches Seattle next month, the battleship or first class cruiser which made the highest score at the recent target practice in Magdalena bay will be awarded a solid silver trophy, valued at \$1,500, presented by the people of Spokane. The cup is to be competed for annually by battleships and cruisers of the first class of the entire American navy. Secretary Metcalf announced that the trophy would be acceptable.

Nebraska Returns Blow.

Lincoln, Neb., April 7.—Insurance Auditor Pierce today decided to notify agents of companies organized under the laws of California that they must cease doing business in Nebraska. This action followed a refusal of Commissioner Wolf, of California, to admit Nebraska companies. The action of Insurance Auditor Pierce affects the Firemen's Fund, of San Francisco; the Home Fire & Marine, of San Francisco; and the Pacific Mutual, of Los Angeles.

Four Big Colliers Arrive.

San Francisco, April 7.—Since Saturday four British colliers, carrying 25,000 tons of coal for the big fleet of 16 battleships from the Atlantic, have arrived at this port and are now moored in the stream.

HOPELESS SPLIT.

Interstate Commission Cannot Agree on Spokane Rate Case.

Washington, April 6.—After having the Spokane rate case under consideration for more than one year, the Interstate Commerce commission is apparently hopelessly divided regarding the decision which should be rendered. The case is the most important upon the docket of the commission, and upon it hinges the entire rate fabric of the United States.

If the commission should decide with the shippers of Spokane, the theory upon which the railroads have made rates from the earliest days will be upset and past decisions on the short and long haul clause of the commerce act will be more or less nullified. On the other hand, if the commission refuses to disturb the present adjustment, a long step toward establishing the justice of the ratemaking methods of the railroads will have been taken. Recognizing the import of the case, the commission went into a most careful and elaborate investigation and hearing of all the facts and listened to arguments from a large number of the business, railroad and commercial lawyers in the West.

Since the arguments were heard the commission has had numerous conferences regarding a decision, and it develops that there are at least three different views which thus far have proved irreconcilable. The commission has struggled in vain to get a majority report and apparently is in a deadlock.

The case is one which has been bothering the railroads in the Northwest for years prior to the commission's being given greater powers. Owing to water competition, according to the railroads, the rates to Spokane from the Eastern seaboard are the rates to the Pacific coast, plus the local rates from the Pacific coast back to Spokane. The latter city insists that this is unfair.

FIGHT FOR SALT BEDS.

Deposits of Enormous Value Discovered in Utah.

Washington, April 6.—Title to lands in the state of Utah containing salt deposits of an extent and purity hitherto not only unknown, but undreamed of, is involved in a sensational contest now being fought out in this city. About 38,000 acres of lands lying along the western border of Utah have been discovered to be overlapped with salt, and an attempt is being made to acquire them by the filing of placer mining claims on the part of individuals. The value of the lands was today estimated by one of the claimants at \$400,000,000.

Deposited by nature on the lands over which the contest is being made is a bed of pure salt, which in some places lies to a depth of six feet. This salt is of so fine a quality that it has been found unnecessary to refine it. It can be marketed direct from the deposit and tests have shown it to be 98 per cent pure. Elaborate preparations have been made for the control of the land by individuals, who have thus far kept the discovery of the deposit out of the newspapers.

For two or three months they were successful, but now the state of Utah has awakened to the vast possibilities of this salt deposit and the aid of the senate of the United States and the president has been invoked in an effort to retain the product, which the commonwealth claims under a section of the enabling act making it a state.

SOON DECIDE LUMBER RATES

Then Commission Will Act on Opening Portland Gateway.

Washington, April 6.—The Portland gateway case, which was argued last fall and which involves the shipment of lumber eastward from Puget sound via Portland, will not be decided until the Interstate Commerce commission has rendered an opinion on the lumber rate cases which were recently argued here. The commission will this week hold its first conference on the lumber rate case and its decision in that case may not be forthcoming for many weeks, though there is a disposition to settle this question with as much expedition as possible, as it involves the lumber industry of the entire Northwest.

Increases Fire Hazard.

San Francisco, April 6.—The present unsatisfactory condition of San Francisco's water supply, especially from the point of view of protection against fire hazard, was forcibly outlined in a communication sent to the board of supervisors today by the board of fire underwriters of the Pacific. The report sets forth that the water system of the city is a gravity system, with "pressures not standard," and says that the distributing reservoirs and tanks within the city "do not contain five days' supply."

Ford Trial Set.

San Francisco, April 6.—Judge Lawlor indicated this morning that he would place T. L. Ford, general counsel of the United Railroads, on trial for the bribery of Supervisor Coleman next Wednesday, if he denied the defendant's motion for a change of venue when Ford's attorneys filed their reply affidavits tomorrow. Assistant District Attorney John O'Gara today filed his affidavit in reply to that of T. L. Ford.

Police Assist Burglar.

Philadelphia, April 6.—An amazing story of alleged dishonesty in the police department of this city was told today by Harry Rothenberger, aged 19 years, who was arrested charged with larceny. The youth made a confession, in which he says he was aided and abetted in a number of burglaries in the wholesale district of the city by four policemen.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS IN BRIEF

Wednesday, April 8.

Washington, April 8.—The naval appropriation bill, authorizing the construction of two instead of four battleships, and eight instead of four submarine torpedo boats, and carrying a total appropriation of \$103,967,518 for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901, was reported to the house today by Chairman Foss of the committee on naval affairs.

The bill carries an item of \$1,000,000 toward the construction of the submarine torpedo boats and an item of \$445,000 toward the construction of sub-surface torpedo boats. Provision is made for the enlistment of 6,000 men to man the following ships, which are to be put in commission within the next few months: The California, Mississippi, Idaho, New Hampshire, South Dakota, North Carolina, Montana, Chester, Birmingham and Salem; and for 1,500 men required to man torpedo boats not now in commission.

Representative Hobson, of Alabama, submitted a minority report recommending that provision be made in the bill for four first-class battleships instead of two.

Tuesday, April 7.

Washington, April 7.—The senate today adjourned until Thursday, and on that day will take another adjournment until Monday of next week. This program was arranged today by the Republican leaders because no new measures now on the calendar are likely to be enacted this session. The unfinished business is a bill by Gamble to regulate the settlement of the accounts between the United States and the several states relative to the disposition of public land. It is understood that this bill will not be passed at this session, and that the other land bills, such as the one to provide an enlarged homestead, will also go over until next session at least.

Expectations are that there will be little legislation except the appropriation bills, and it is not impossible that congress will be ready to adjourn some time between May 15 and May 30.

Washington, April 7.—The whole of the session of the house today was devoted to the consideration of the District of Columbia appropriation bill. Two amendments of more or less national interest were adopted, one providing for 75-cent gas for all district establishments and the other requiring that all outside doors to public buildings should open outward and that new buildings shall have four exits. An effort to secure the incorporation of a child-labor provision applicable to the district failed. The bill, which appropriates \$9,561,450, was passed and thereupon the house, out of respect to the memory of the late Representative Abraham L. Brick, of Indiana, took a recess until 11:30 o'clock tomorrow, being still on the legislative day of Monday.

Monday, April 6.

Washington, April 6.—The army bill, carrying an appropriation of almost \$100,000,000, was passed by the senate today practically as reported from the committee on military affairs. The only amendment adopted carried an appropriation of \$20,000 for a system of water works for Fort William Henry Harrison, Montana. The bill materially increases the pay of officers and enlisted men.

The fortifications bill, reported to the senate today, carries Senator Ankeny's amendment, increasing the appropriation for fortifications on Puget sound \$1,000,000. As the bill passed the house, it appropriated \$747,000 for this work. The appropriation is not itemized. The senate today passed Ankeny's bill, appropriating \$220,000 for a public building at Walla Walla.

Washington, April 6.—Beyond forcing roll call on the approval of the journal and on adjournment, the Democrats of the house today offered no obstruction to the orderly transaction of business. This being suspension day, several important bills were put through by practically unanimous vote. Among these was the Sterling employers' liability bill, only one vote being recorded against it, that of Littlefield, of Maine, and the bill establishing a naval station at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and appropriating \$650,000 for the purpose, against which Sherwood, of Ohio, stood alone.

At 5:10 p. m. the house took a recess until 11:30 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Saturday, April 4.

Washington, April 4.—The army appropriation bill was completed by the senate committee on military affairs today and will be reported to the senate on Monday. It will carry about \$15,000,000 more than was provided in the bill as it passed the house, making a total of approximately \$100,000,000. An item of about \$7,000,000 was included to increase the pay of the army, revenue cutter service and marine corps, but excluding enlisted men of the navy, in accordance with the provision of the bill which was passed by the senate.

Denies Ill-treating Indians.

Washington, April 9.—Major Reynolds, government agent on the Crow Indian reservation in Montana, today testified before the senate committee on Indian affairs, denying the charges made by Mrs. Helen Pierce Gray, of ill treatment of the Indians. He produced a large amount of documentary evidence taken from the files of the Indian office, in defense of his conduct in various matters of which Mrs. Gray complained.

Washington, April 4.

By adopting a sweeping cloture rule in the house today, the Republicans left to the Democrats very limited powers. No longer can a filibuster be conducted against sending to conference bills with senate amendments; no longer can a motion to close debate be amended or discussed, and no longer can a motion to adjourn take precedence over a motion to take a recess.

Williams forced a rollcall on the adoption of the rule, and it was adopted, 138 to 119.

Consideration of the District of Columbia appropriation bill was then resumed, but only after another rollcall.

Friday, April 3.

Washington, April 3.—The senate committee on judiciary spent some hours considering the various bills intended to relieve prohibition states from Federal interference in dealing with liquor traffic within the borders of such states, but no agreement was reached. It was determined, however, to vote on the measures on Monday.

From the discussion today there appeared to be a chance for the reporting of some measure dealing with a part of the questions, at least, that have been agitated in a number of Southern states, which have been prevented by Supreme court rulings from exercising their police powers for the control of intoxicants.

Washington, April 3.—When the house of representatives adjourned late today, the breach between the majority and minority parties was, if anything, wider than ever. The leaders on both sides arrived on the scene early, apparently none the worse for the parliamentary struggle of the night before. The Democrats resumed dilatory tactics and kept it up throughout the day, notwithstanding the committee on rules applying the gag law to general debate on the District of Columbia appropriation bill, which was in order for consideration. The rule was adopted amid uproar and after the Democrats have exhausted every parliamentary move which they could make to obstruct its final disposition.

Thursday, April 2.

Washington, April 2.—The executive session of the senate today was largely consumed by discussion, without passage of a bill to reorganize the public school system in the District of Columbia by placing it under the control of a director appointed by the national commissioner of education, superseding the control by the board of education composed of citizens of the District.

The bill relating to the settlement of claims of states on account of the disposition of public land was again taken up and the Bacon amendment for settling the accounts of owners of cotton seized by the government during the Civil war, amounting to \$5,000,000, was considered, but without results either on the bill or the amendment.

Washington, April 2.—Carrying a total of \$11,508,806, the agricultural appropriation bill was passed by the house late today. It had been under discussion for nine days and from the time its consideration began until the very end its provisions were attacked at every turn, with the result that it underwent many changes. Just before its passage, Scott, of Kansas, chairman of the agricultural committee, made an unsuccessful fight to have stricken out the amendment adopted yesterday considerably increasing the appropriation for soil investigations.

During the debate today a brief flurry was created by Harrison, of New York, Democrat, characterizing as socialist the bill of the minority leader, Williams, providing for the utilization of the treasury surplus in the construction and improvement of roads in the several states.

Mexico Is Angry.

Washington, April 7.—While the official relations between the United States and Mexico were never more cordial than now, and while there is nothing in the material interests or desires of either republic which conflicts in the slightest degree with the others, officials of the American State department have become suddenly aware of the existence and rapid growth of a public sentiment in Mexico of distrust and suspicion of Americans and the American intentions respecting Mexican territory. This condition is made more exasperating but none the less harmless and embarrassing from the fact that it is entirely groundless in fact, and the officials declare for its basis nothing but irresponsible newspaper gossip and criticism.

Sues Heflin for Damages.

Washington, April 7.—Representative Thomas Heflin, of Alabama, was today made the defendant in a suit for \$20,000 damages filed by Louis Lundy, the negro with whom the congressman had an altercation on a streetcar on March 27 last. The affair grows out of Mr. Heflin's taking exception to the negro's drinking on a streetcar in the presence of women. Lundy is represented by four negro attorneys.

Sioux Want Reservations Opened.

Washington, April 8.—A delegation of Sioux Indians from the Cheyenne and Standing Rock reservations, who favor opening at least half of these reservations to settlement, called upon the president today with Commissioner Leupp, of the bureau of Indian affairs. The president chatted with them a short time. If the plan for opening these reservations should become a law, about 3,200,000 acres would become open to settlers.

UPPER COURT TO DECIDE.

Ruef Asks That Judge Dooling Be Forbidden to Try Him.

San Francisco, April 3.—With the views of Judge Maurice T. Dooling, as announced from the bench, that an immunity contract is non-existent in law, illegal if entered into by a district attorney and unenforceable by a defendant, indicating a probable adverse ruling on the objection of Abraham Ruef to further proceedings against him because of the promise of immunity made him by the prosecution but afterwards repudiated, Ruef, through his attorneys, today made application to the State Supreme court for a writ of mandate and petitioned for a writ of prohibition. The application and petition are identical with the ones denied yesterday by the District Court of Appeal. The Supreme court is asked to prohibit Judge Dooling from continuing the trial of Ruef, and to issue a writ of mandate ordering him to transfer the case to another department of the Superior court.

Assistant District Attorney Francis J. Henny this afternoon replied to the argument of Frank J. Murphy, who raised the question of the immunity contract before Judge Dooling this morning and contended that through Ruef's reliance upon the promise made him, his constitutional rights were invaded when he testified before the grand jury and that he was entitled to be placed back where he could attack the validity of the indictments.

CONDEMNNS ALL PENDING BILLS.

New York Chamber Advocates Commission on Currency System.

New York, April 3.—None of the currency legislation now before congress, with the exception of the Loving bill, which provides for the appointment of a commission to investigate the currency and banking systems of the United States, will have the approval of the New York chamber of commerce. This was the decision today when the chamber adopted the report of its special committee to investigate and report upon pending legislation. It is the belief of the committee that there is little chance of any currency legislation being enacted at the present session of congress.

The committee's report recommends the enactment of a law providing for the appointment of a commission to investigate the currency and banking systems of the United States and other leading commercial nations and to report such measure "as may be found necessary to place our currency and banking system on a sound basis, which is absolutely essential for the permanent welfare and progress of the country."

PRACTICE NEARLY OVER.

Vessels at Magdalena Bay About to Coal and Clean Ship.

San Diego, Cal., April 3.—Wireless reports received from Magdalena bay state that the record target practice of 1908 for the Atlantic fleet is practically at an end. The Vermont, the last of the "Big 16" to go upon the ranges, completed the firing of her 12-inch guns yesterday and today was completing her record with the rifles in the secondary battery. Most of the ships also have completed their torpedo practice, so that little remains to be done at Magdalena bay but to coal and clean ship.

It is said that all of the vessels will take on sufficient coal to carry them to San Francisco. In this way the ships will be open to visitors every day of their stay at the various ports on the coast. During coaling days all ships of the navy are barred to visitors and practically all of the officers have to remain on board.

The Connecticut, which brought Admiral Evans to San Diego yesterday afternoon, and which cleared again for Magdalena bay at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, was 240 miles south at noon today and will join the fleet late tomorrow afternoon.

The weather at Magdalena bay is reported as cloudy and threatening, these conditions having prevailed for some time. No rain has fallen in the bay, but a few miles inland it is said there have been heavy showers. White uniforms were expected to be worn, but blue has been the prescribed color nearly every day.

Moves to Start Mines.

Indianapolis, April 3.—The first official act of President Lewis, of the United Mineworkers of America, in assuming his office today, was to send telegraphic invitations to the operators of the competitive field, consisting of Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, to attend a meeting in this city Monday, April 6, with representatives of the miners, to make an effort to agree upon a call for an interstate wage convention and, if necessary, to decide upon a general resumption of mining operations in the field.

Just Passes Contract Speed.

Rockland, Me., April 3.—Facing adverse conditions today in the way of high winds and heavy seas, the armored cruiser Montana exceeded her contract requirements by a slender margin on the Rockland trial course. Her fastest mile, which was made with the tide in her favor, was at the rate of 23.8 knots an hour. The Montana made 13 runs today, being started at a 16-knot clip, which was increased gradually to 22 knots.

Anarchy Rules in Hayti.

Paris, April 3.—A dispatch received here today from Port au Prince, Hayti, says that the situation there is extremely grave and that complete anarchy prevails. The dispatch further declares that American warships are preparing to land marines.

WEST MUST UNITE

Important Legislation Pending at National Capital.

TEAM WORK WOULD CARRY DAY

Dry Farm Homestead Bill, in Which West is Greatly Interested, Among Measures.

Washington, April 4.—There are several important bills pending before senate and house, or in their committees, of great interest to the West, any one of which can probably be passed if Western senators and congressmen will get together and make a united effort. Most conspicuous among them at the present time is the 320-acre dry farm homestead bill, a measure that means a great deal to the states west of the Missouri river, in many of which settlement is practically checked because the best lands have passed to private ownership, and what remains cannot be successfully entered under the existing homestead law.

Another most meritorious measure hanging in the balance is the Borah bill, providing funds for building schools, installing sewer and water systems and making other municipal improvements in towns established on government irrigation projects. This bill proposes to donate to such towns all moneys derived from the sale of town lots, a fund which, in most instances, will be ample for the purpose.

Experience has shown that towns on government projects have been slower of development than towns on Carey act projects. The latter have grown rapidly. Large schools have been erected; adequate water and sewer systems have been installed, streets have been improved, etc., whereas in towns on government projects the citizens have been obliged to go down into their own pockets to provide and maintain schools and property holders have been compelled to bear the entire expense of all civic improvements.

The national drainage bill, which contemplates the reclamation of swamp and overflowed lands in all parts of the United States, stands little chance of passing this session. Though it is a measure of great merit, there does not seem to be that interest that is essential to force through a bill of such magnitude and importance. It is difficult to explain this lack of interest, too, for there is scarcely a state that has not some lands that would be benefited by a national drainage law.

There is one bill that congress will certainly not pass this session, yet one that should have been enacted long ago—a bill repealing the timber and stone act and substituting some more practicable statute providing for the disposal of government timber. It has been amply demonstrated that the timber and stone act is vicious and unjust.

POPULISTS NAME TICKET.

Watson and Williams Their Choice for National Officers.

St. Louis, April 4.—For president of the United States, Thomas E. Watson, of Georgia.

For vice president, Samuel W. Williams, of Indiana.

This ticket was nominated yesterday by the People's party convention after two stormy sessions, throughout which the Nebraska and Minnesota delegations, working in the interests of W. J. Bryan, strove desperately to bring about an adjournment till after nominations had been made by the Democratic and Republican parties. Hopelessly outnumbered, and without any chance whatever of gaining their object, the Nebraska men fought desperately to the last, and, when Jay A. Forrest, of Albany, N. Y., mounted the platform to place Mr. Watson in nomination, they withdrew from the convention, attended by the Minnesota delegation.

Confer With Governors.

Indianapolis, Ind., April 4.—John Mitchell, ex-president of the miners of the country, is one of the five Americans selected by President Roosevelt to be special guests of the big conference of state and territorial governors to be held in Washington May 13. This conference, which will last three days and the sessions of which will be held in the east room of the White House, will be presided over by Mr. Roosevelt. It will be the first meeting in the history of the country of Federal and state and territorial executives.

Twenty-three Drowned.

Portsmouth, Eng., April 4.—A wireless message received here states that during the night maneuvers in the channel the cruiser Berwick ran down the torpedo destroyer Tiger. The Tiger was cut in half and speedily sank. Boats from the Berwick and the cruiser Gladiator picked up 23 men, one of whom died later from his injuries. It is believed that the Tiger had a crew of 45 men and that all the others were drowned.

Will Fight Two-cent Law.

Chicago, April 4.—A combined attack on the 2-cent passenger rate is promised by the railroads that operate in Illinois, Minnesota and Missouri. It is probable that the suits will be filed next week. The call for a conference to meet, at which officials of the Illinois roads will be present, was issued today, and plans for the fight will then then be laid.