

# ALMOST BANKRUPT

**Philippine Government Only Kept Up by Sale of Bonds.**

## FILIPINOS REFUSE TO PAY TAXES

**Purpose of Taft's Visit to Islands is to Place Government on Safe Financial Basis.**

Washington, July 8.—Secretary Taft is hastening to Manila to prevent an utter collapse of the civil government there as administered by Governor Wright. The mystery of his mission and the urgency with which it is undertaken are gradually being revealed. Early action of a remedial character is necessary to prevent the government from becoming bankrupt through shortage of revenue receipts.

Governor Wright has not made progress in dealing with the Filipinos. He has asked them to obey the laws and let it go at that. He has not sought to harmonize differences and secure their co-operation. As a result, the Filipinos are now refusing to pay taxes. They knew nothing about land and revenue taxes until American rule was made effective. Taft succeeded in inducing the natives to pay these taxes. Under Wright they refused payment. It is impossible to sell the land for delinquent taxes.

The decrease in Philippine revenue has been so great that nothing but bond sales has prevented a collapse of the government. The money derived from selling bonds and certificates of indebtedness has furnished sufficient funds to maintain affairs up to this time, but the sums borrowed must eventually be repaid, and the situation has grown serious.

Mr. Taft has gone to determine what can be done to develop revenues and to place the government on a safe financial basis. Mr. Taft also desires to confer with Governor Wright on the friar land question. The entire matter was adjusted after tedious deliberations, and an arrangement reached satisfactory to the president and Mr. Taft. The titles were defective, and it was agreed to have new transfers made. Governor Wright was asked for his approval and refused to give it. It is considered imperative that this troublesome question should be settled.

### Alaska Exhibit for Fair.

Seattle, Wash., July 11.—J. J. Underwood, arrived from Nome this morning on the steamer Zealandia with the Alaska exhibit for the Lewis and Clark exposition at Portland. The value of the exhibit, of which Mr. Underwood will have charge, is over \$50,000, and the two principal features are a \$25,000 gold brick and \$10,000 worth of nuggets from the Peterson clean-up in the Portland bench claim. It is the intention of the exhibitors to display the resources of Alaska in a thoroughly creditable manner.

### Root Has Accepted.

New York, July 8. — It can be definitely stated that President Roosevelt has offered the position of secretary of state to Elihu Root, and that Mr. Root has accepted. President Roosevelt arrived at Jersey City at 9 a. m. He boarded a Pennsylvania Railroad tug and was taken to Long Island City. He left there for Oyster bay at 9:47. Paul Morton and Elihu Root, who accompanied the president from Cleveland, left the train at Jersey City.

### Refunding Hawaiian Debt.

Washington, July 8. — President Roosevelt has approved the issue of \$600,000 of bonds by the Territory of Hawaii to refund the gold bonds of the Republic of Hawaii, issued under act of the legislature of June 13, 1896.

## WITNESSES FORGET.

**Important Testimony in Land Fraud Cases Hard To Get.**

Portland, July 9.—Three witnesses now have been heard in the trial of Representative Williamson, Dr. Van Gesner and Marion R. Biggs, whose cases are being heard before Judge De Haven. They have given damaging testimony, but it has been literally dragged from them, and yesterday morning when Henry Beard was testifying, Judge De Haven turned to District Attorney Heney and said: "Mr. Heney, you may lead the witness, for it seems as if this is the only way you can get anything out of him."

This statement came from the court after his honor had listened to the examination of Campbell Duncan, Green Beard and his son Henry. Hardly had the direct examination of Duncan gotten under way than inferences that witness for the government had been tampered with were being brought out. Duncan had a splendid ability to forget. His memory in connection with the talks and deals that he had with the defendants was conveniently a blank. So was that of Green Beard, who was another of the men who had taken up a timber claim, which, it is alleged, was taken for Dr. Gesner and Representative Williamson. His son Henry was also suffering from a bad memory, but after a severe shaking up both by Mr. Heney and Judge Bennett, he blandly admitted, when he was closely pressed by Judge Bennett, that he had committed perjury in swearing to his timber entry affidavit.

Shortly after the morning session convened, ex-Senator Thurston rose to make inquiry concerning the motion for a new trial for Senator Mitchell. Counsel explained that he was a long way from home and that nothing save the pending motion was keeping him in Portland. Judge De Haven then announced that he would take up the Mitchell case at 10 o'clock Monday.

### Japanese Spread the News.

Sipinghai, Manchuria, July 11.—The news of the mutiny in the Black sea reached the Russian army through the Japanese, who fired night shells charged with proclamations conveying the information into the Russian advanced posts, scattering the proclamations.

### PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 81@82c per bushel; bluestem, 87@88c; valley, 86c.

Barley—Feed, \$21.50@22 per ton; rolled, \$23@24.

Oats—No. 1 white, feed, \$29 per ton; gray, \$29.

Hay—Timothy, \$14@16 per ton; clover, \$11@12.

Fruits—Strawberries, \$2@2.50 per crate; apples, table, \$1.50@2.50 per box; apricots, 90c@1 per crate; plums, 50@90c; Logan berries, \$1.15@1.25; blackberries, 8c per pound; cherries, 5@10c; currants, 8c; prunes 50@90c; raspberries, 6c.

Fresh Vegetables—Beans, 1@4c per pound; cabbage, 1@1½c; cauliflower, \$1 per dozen; celery, 90c; corn, 20@25c; cucumbers, 40@60c; lettuce, head, 10c; peas, 2@6c per pound; radishes, 10@12c per dozen; rhubarb, 1½@2½c per pound; turnips, \$1.25@1.40 per sack; carrots, \$1.25@1.50; beets, \$1@1.25.

Potatoes—Oregon, old, \$1.15@1.25; Oregon, new, 90c@1.10.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 17½@21½c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 20@21c per dozen.

Poultry — Fancy hens, 13@13½c; mixed chickens, 12@12½c; turkeys, live, 18@19c; geese, live, 7½@8c; ducks, old, \$4@5; ducks, young, as to size, \$2@5.

Hops — Choice, 1904, 17@20c per pound.

Wool — Eastern Oregon, best, 19@23c; valley, 26@27c; mohair, 31@32½c per pound for choice.

Beef — Dressed bulls, 1@2c per pound; cows, 3½@4½c.

Mutton — Dressed, fancy, 5c per pound.

Veal—3@6½c per pound, according to size.

Pork—6@7½c per pound.

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