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NEWS ITEMS FROM WASHINGTON, D. C.

PACIFIC COAST HIT.

Dealers Do Not Get Chance to Bid on Supplies for Canal.

Washington, July 17.—Unless word is received from Colonel Goethels today to the contrary, Pacific coast dealers will not be considered in the purchasing of supplies by the commissary department of the canal commission. Captain Beggs, general purchasing agent for the Panama canal commission, in a statement given out yesterday, said that poor steamship service on the Pacific coast is responsible for the decision.

The Pacific coast merchants have requested that some of the supplies be purchased there and shipped to La Boca. Captain Beggs says that if supplies were purchased on the Pacific coast and there should be a failure to ship on a vessel it would be 29 days before another shipment could arrive. On the Atlantic coast shipments can be made every four days. Twenty days is too long an interval for the shipment of fresh food, says Captain Beggs, but prunes and dried peaches might be purchased on the Pacific coast.

Bids on Dry Dock Opened.

Washington, July 22.—Bids Saturday were opened at the navy department for the construction of drydock No. 2, at Puget sound navy yard. The dock will be built of concrete and granite. Congress appropriated \$2,000,000 for it. Bids were asked on two alternate propositions, one a dock 883 feet long, the other a dock 740 feet long. The bids follow: Cassey Lohse Winters company, Seattle, \$2,250,000 and \$2,108,000; Westlake Construction company, St. Louis, \$2,237,000 and \$2,111,000; C. J. Erickson, Seattle, \$1,625,000; no bid on smaller dock; Jack Black Masonry Contracting company, St. Louis, \$1,999,196 and \$1,915,000; Puget Sound Bridge & Dredging company, Seattle, \$1,975,000 and \$1,880,000.

Gunboats Ordered to Unrestville.

Washington, July 18.—Orders have been issued by the War department for the gunboats Vicksburg and Princeton to proceed at once around the horn to the Caribbean sea, a distance of 14,000 miles. Both vessels are out of commission. The Vicksburg is at Mare Island and the Princeton is at Bremerton. Conditions in Honduras are responsible for the rush. The gunboats will stop at Amapala, where the cruiser Albany is now stationed. Orders have also been issued for the gunboat Marietta, now at Jamaica, to proceed at once to Porta Costa, on the Gulf coast.

Balks at Canned Speech.

Oyster Bay, N. Y., July 18.—President Roosevelt has refused an offer to make speeches into the receiver of a talking machine for the purpose of making records for public sale. The president attended to official business this morning and this afternoon assisted Mrs. Roosevelt in entertaining the members of the St. Hilda society of Christ Episcopal church. The society assists in the parish charitable cases, and Mrs. Roosevelt each year entertains its members.

Gunboats to go East.

Washington, July 18.—Acting Secretary of the Navy Newberry has announced that the gunboats Princeton and Vicksburg, now at Bremerton and Mare Island respectively, on the Pacific coast, will be brought to the Atlantic in a short time. Both vessels are now out of commission. They will be fitted for the voyage and advantage will be taken of suitable weather conditions to make the trip. They will be used for coast defense on the Atlantic.

Takes Chace of Timber.

Washington, July 22.—A joint board representing the war department and the bureau of forestry has taken up the matter of preserving the forests on military reservations. An arrangement will be made for a beneficial cutting of timber and for preserving the trees which will remain. Under this arrangement the war department retains control of the forests on the reservations, and at the same time gets the valuable services of the forestry bureau.

Knocker on Navy Visits President.

Oyster Bay, L. I., July 18.—Henry Reuterdel was the guest of President Roosevelt yesterday. This is the first time the writer has seen the president since his criticism of the navy. It is understood that Reuterdel went over the whole article with the president and pointed out to him the basis of the criticism.

New Bids Are Called For.

Washington, July 22.—Instructions have been sent to the army construction quartermaster at San Francisco to invite new bids on 29 days' notice for the construction of the big army supply depot and the shipment station at Fort Mason, Cal. The contract was awarded to the P. J. Carlin Construction company, of New York, but they failed to sign the contract.

A. Y.-P. Money Available.

Washington, July 22.—The treasury department Monday notified W. M. Geddes, currency distributing officer for the exposition company, that the government appropriation for the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition at Seattle, amounting to \$600,000, is now available.

LABORERS PLAY MERCHANT.

Ancient Game Worked Successfully by Means of Lying Passports.

Washington, July 16.—Acting on reports showing that many Japanese who come to this country on passports indicating that they are merchants or students or members of some other branch of the exempt classes, later take their places as laborers, the government is planning to increase the activity of agents keeping the immigrants under surveillance.

The officials believe that Japan is using every effort to live up to her agreement not to issue passports to laborers, but there is little doubt that the regulations are continually evaded. It is believed that a careful watch on the immigrants after they have reached this country soon will lead to a solution of the problem.

The work of the immigration commission on the Pacific Coast under the direction of Professor F. C. Mitchell, whose headquarters are in San Francisco, is progressing successfully, according to his reports, and he is to be allowed more agents for field work. He is following the immigrants and determining their social progress. He finds that Italians, Mexicans and Russians have showed marked advancement.

APPROVES STOCK INCREASE

Interior Department Ratifies Action of Umatilla Water Users.

Washington, July 21.—The secretary of the interior has approved an increase of stock in the Umatilla Water Users' association from 9,000 to 22,000 shares. The association, made up of landowners under the Umatilla irrigation project, was organized with a capital stock of \$540,000, divided into 9,000 shares of a par value of \$60 each. The project has since been extended to include a total of 22,000 acres, and in order that there may be one share of stock for each acre of land, it has been necessary to increase the stock to \$1,320,000, divided into 22,000 shares, of a par value of \$60 each.

Billion Dollar Congress Reports.

Washington, July 21.—The last session of congress made necessary total appropriations amounting to \$1,008,397,543.56, according to the announcement made yesterday under the law which requires the publication of the total volume of appropriations after each session. In addition to the appropriations already made, the contracts authorized by the session require the future appropriation of funds for public works, aggregating \$49,443,750. This makes the total expense of the session \$1,057,841,293.56.

Increase Border Posts.

Washington, July 16.—Ambassador Creel, of Mexico, who has been in conference with Acting Secretary of State Bacon regarding the alleged violation of the neutrality laws along the Mexican border, was given again the most positive assurance of the intentions of this government to prosecute all neutrality offenders. An increase of the army posts on the border is possible, as Mexico already has indicated her intention of adding to the number.

All Well on Nebraska.

Washington, July 17.—All are well on board the Nebraska, announced Commander-in-Chief Sperry, of the Atlantic fleet, in reporting the Nebraska's rejoining the fleet in a wireless telegram by way of Honolulu. Because of the appearance of scarlet fever on the Nebraska, that vessel left San Francisco two days later than the other 15 vessels of the fleet.

Mixing Paper Lrust a Dose.

Oyster Bay, L. I., July 21.—Attorney General Bonaparte was here Saturday in conference with President Roosevelt regarding the prosecution of the paper trust. After his conference with President Roosevelt Attorney General Bonaparte, in answer to questions, said: "The only trust I know anything about is the vicious reporter trust of Oyster Bay."

No Notice of Lumber Rate Appeal

Washington, July 22.—Judge Martin A. Knapp, chairman of the interstate commerce commission, Saturday stated that he had not been officially informed that the transcontinental railroads would contest the commission's decision in the lumber rate cases, but he has heard in an indirect way that they are considering such a course.

Uncle Sam Demands Protection.

Washington, July 21.—The state department yesterday made a demand on the Persian foreign office to take up the demands of the United States government for the protection of American missionaries and their property at Tabriz.

Government Accepts Montana.

Washington, July 22.—The new battleship Montana has been accepted by the navy department. Captain Alfred Reynolds is in charge.

AVOID TRUST LAW

Railroad Companies Cannot Increase Rates by Concerted Action.

Washington, July 20.—The interstate commerce commission may take action on the increased freight rates agreed to at the meeting of the Southeastern Freight association and the Southeastern Mississippi Valley association, at Louisville, Ky., Saturday, when the new tariffs are filed with the commission by the roads having membership in these two associations. Action cannot be taken by the commission on its own initiative or on the complaints of shippers or shippers' associations. If the interstate commerce commission should find that the increase in freight rates was made through concerted action, and that there was evidence that the Sherman anti-trust law was violated, attention will in all probability be called to the matter.

In speaking of the powers of the interstate commerce commission where an advance in freight rates has been made by any railroad, Chairman Knapp, of the commission, said: "The railroads must file their tariffs with the commission with 30 days' notice of a contemplated change. Changes in rates between competitive points must be made simultaneously by all the roads operating between those points. This in a measure protects the shipper. When a railroad files notice of an increase in its freight rates the commission can on its own motion make an investigation as to the reasonableness of the advance."

"In a case where the commission acts on its own motion, however, it cannot issue an order. If a shipper makes a complaint to the commission against a railroad charging an unjust increase of rates, each side is given a hearing, and the commission can then issue an order based on its decision in the case." Should it develop that the increase was made through concerted action, the commission would very likely refer the matter to the attorney general. The department of justice can also call upon the commission to investigate as to the reasonableness in rates.

PACIFIC COAST LOSER.

Transcontinental Shippers Claim Rate Ruling Fatal to Oriental Trade.

San Francisco, July 20.—The Southern Pacific and Santa Fe railroads and the Pacific Mail Steamship company are preparing to have a hearing before the interstate commerce commission on the question of transcontinental rates for goods shipped across the Pacific ocean. The new rule of the commission compels the railroads to charge the same price for these goods as for any other, whereas it had been customary for the railroads to make this rate cheaper to the steamship companies.

The information that the interstate commerce commission has decided to postpone until October the day on which the rate would become effective, because of a protest from Japan, has given the railroads and steamship company time to act.

The plea will be made to the interstate commerce commission that steamers traveling through the Suez canal will get the trade if the transcontinental roads are not allowed to juggle rates as they please. The steamers charge their rates often and quickly, they say, and if the American railroads are compelled to adhere to the published rate they will lose this oriental business.

Disaffection in Turkish Army.

Constantinople, Turkey, July 18.—After months of quiet, "things are doing" again in Turkey, and are taking a serious turn. The troops in Macedonia threaten to get entirely out of hand. They are mutinous because pay day never arrives. Often men whose time has expired have been kept with the colors for years, owing to lack of money to pay them off. From time to time mutinies have developed in various towns, and occasionally a little money has been sent to troops to tide over some highly dangerous crisis. Now a new element of danger appears in "young Turkey." This party is proving extremely active among the troops, and numerous incidents show the trend of events.

Comes Home an Invalid.

New York, July 20.—Alton Gard, district governor of Lanao, Philippines, who was shot and seriously injured while attempting to arrest the datus of Lanao for the murder of a Tennessean, a settler in the province, and who arrived in this city Saturday, was taken to Roosevelt hospital.

Gard was treated in Manila, but it was thought there might be serious results from the iron bullets, and he was advised to return to this country. At the hospital last night it was said that he was resting comfortably after his 19,000-mile journey.

Tongs Doom Prosecutor.

Sacramento, Cal., July 20.—Because he succeeded in causing the conviction of Mar Gin Sui on a charge of murder, District Attorney Eugene S. Washor has had a price set on his head by certain Chinese societies of this city and has been warned to be on his guard. Mar Gin Sui, a well-known highbinder, murdered Lee Tui, a Bing tongman. A jury Saturday night decided that Mar Sui was guilty of murder in the first degree.

Says Revolution Is Crushed.

New York, July 20.—The Associated Press has received the following dispatch from General Davila, president of Honduras: "Tegucigalpa, Honduras, July 17.—The government has put an end to the revolutionary movement in 10 days. The decisive battle was fought at Nacaome. The enemy was defeated and escaped into Salvador."

Ohio Referendum Law Upheld.

Cleveland, July 20.—The new initiative and referendum state law was held to be constitutional today by Judge Chapman in common pleas court. The test case will be carried to the state supreme court for final decision.

INCREASE IS ILLEGAL

Railroad Rates Cannot Be Raised, Says Commissioner.

POINT WAS DECIDED IN GEORGIA

All Concerned Incur Penalty Under Sherman Law As It Would Be Violated.

Chicago, July 18.—A special to the Tribune from Washington says:

In the opinion of John Clements, a member of the interstate commerce commission, the proposed general increase in freight rates discussed in New York yesterday by the presidents of many eastern railways in the Trunk Line association would constitute a violation of the Sherman anti-trust law and would render all the railroads concerned liable to severe penalties. Mr. Clements explained that the interstate commerce commission as a commission is not at all interested in the Sherman anti-trust law, the execution of which is entrusted to the department of justice, but he expressed his opinion as a lawyer and cited a recent instance where the supreme court had so decided.

"As a lawyer," he said, "I am willing to hazard the opinion that such an increase in rates as was contemplated by the eastern railways at their meeting in New York would be in direct violation of the anti-trust law. When practically all of the eastern roads, and, for that matter, all of the roads in the country, by a mutual agreement raise rates, it is to my mind a procedure which brings them under that clause of the anti-trust law which prevents 'pooling' and illegal combinations."

"Whether or not there is any necessity now for an increase of rates, I am not prepared to say. If the increase should come, the commissioners would have ample time to decide that point. I am convinced, however, that the railways will give the anti-trust laws careful consideration before they consider a general increase in rates. A similar case came up in Georgia some time ago during some lumber hearings. Federal Judge Speer decided that the railroads had formed an illegal combination in increasing the rates, and the supreme court affirmed the decision."

FIRE ON STRIKEBREAKERS.

Alabama Miners Kill Deputy Sheriff and Wound Dozen Men.

Birmingham, Ala., July 18.—Robert Gardner, a deputy sheriff, was fatally wounded and at least a dozen miners more or less seriously hurt as the result of an attack on a train bearing strike-breakers to take the places of striking union miners at Jefferson, near here, yesterday. The train was in charge of 13 deputies, and was en route to Adamsville. It is said the union miners attempted to induce the strike-breakers to leave the train, and threatened to kill them if they went to work.

Governor Comer has ordered a company of cavalry from Montgomery to the scene, and troops already on the ground are under arms, and will patrol the district tonight, preventing further disorders. Deputy Gardner, mortally wounded, was brought to Birmingham last night. Deputy George Smith, accompanying him, estimates that no less than 1000 shots were fired on both sides in the attack at Jefferson.

According to Smith the engagement was opened when a train bearing 50 strike-breakers attempted to leave Jefferson for Adamsville. Prior to this a number of union miners had made overtures to the strike-breakers to join their ranks, threatening at the same time to kill them in case they attempted to work the mines of the operators.

Doesn't Mind the Fleet.

London, July 18.—Criticism by the British press of Australia and New Zealand for the expenditure of enormous sums in preparation for the entertainment of the American fleet is not finding favor with the general public here. Sentiment of the people generally is with the colonies in their stand on the question, and editorial utterances on the subject are much milder today than they have been in the past. On the continent there has been no criticism of the world voyage of the United States men-of-war.

Marshall Is Indicted.

New York, July 18.—A G. Marshall, manager of the Standard Protective society, who, with Henry G. Cooke, president of the Oregon Raising & Timber company was indicted on a charge of conspiracy to defraud the United States by violating the law in relation to sale of timber land in Oregon, surrendered himself to United States Marshal Henkel yesterday. He was later arraigned in the United States circuit court.

Will Use Great Northern Track.

Billings, Mont., July 18.—It is announced that with the completion of the line of the Billings Northern railroad from Billings to Great Falls, Mont., about September 1, the Burlington trains, now using the Northern Pacific line to the coast, will proceed over the Billings Northern to Great Falls, from which place the tracks of the Great Northern will be used.