

WRITES ON ALASKA

Taft Favors Federal Railroad and Commission Government.

In Complete Accord With Secretary Fisher—Would Lease Portion of Coal Lands.

Washington, D. C. — President Taft's next message to congress will deal with the conservation of natural resources. It is expected that it will be sent in next week, and a recent cabinet meeting was devoted largely to a consideration of the recommendations to be made. It developed that there is complete accord between President Taft and Secretary of the Interior Fisher as to the methods that ought to be adopted and the legislation that is essential to the safeguarding of present interests and the interests of future generations.

With the general subject of conservation goes the administration of affairs in Alaska. Indeed, it is with respect to Alaska that the most pressing demand for conservation legislation is involved. It has been decided to recommend substantially as follows: The construction by the Federal government of a central trunk line railroad from tidewater to Tanana and Yukon, Alaska.

The passage of a liberal but carefully safeguarded leasing law, development of mineral resources and especially of coal lands.

The reservation of a sufficient amount of coal lands in Alaska to provide for the future needs of the navy and the mining of coal by the government for this purpose.

More liberal appropriations for the construction of roads and trails in Alaska.

The adoption of a form of territorial government in Alaska better adapted to its remote situation and peculiar conditions.

Of the pros and cons of the leasing system with respect to Alaska the country has been fully informed heretofore. The commission government plan is one that aroused much opposition in certain congressional circles, but after a full consideration it is the conviction of the administration that their plan offers the best solution of the problem.

CURRENT'S COURSE NEW.

Japan Stream Now Setting Closer to Alaska Coast.

Cordova, Alaska — A phenomenal change in the course of the Japan current, which is now setting closer to the Alaska coast, was reported by Captain J. C. Hunter, of the steamship Northwestern, and Captain P. A. Obert, of the steamship Edith. Captain Hunter said the Northwestern was set 55 miles eastward ahead of the log running from Cape Flattery to Cape St. Elias, and the Edith was 26 miles off her course running from Cape Omanney to St. Elias.

No satisfactory explanation has been given of the change of current. One theory is that the recent volcanic disturbance in the Alaska peninsula may have thrown up some new island in the North Pacific which has swung the current from its old course.

Fire Chief Loses Life.

Walla Walla, Wash. — Assistant Fire Chief Robert J. Wolf was killed, Lieutenant William Davis dangerously burned, and approximately \$200,000 worth of property was destroyed by fire in the Jones building, a three-story structure at Second and Alder streets in the heart of the business district.

The fire was the worst Walla Walla has had for a quarter of a century. For six hours it raged uncontrolled, and at times it was thought certain parts of the business district surrounding would be burned.

Naval Uplift Rejected.

New York — It has become known that the Navy department, following a report by the board of inquiry, has decided against the proposition for the government to take over the restaurant in the New York navy yard. The restaurant was started for the benefit of employes at the yard by Miss Anne Morgan, daughter of J. P. Morgan, three years ago. Miss Morgan, Mrs. Rosalie Rand, Mrs. Frances E. Bacon and other prominent women visited the navy yard and looked over the restaurant.

Old Crime Torments Him.

Eureka, Cal. — Tormented by a killing committed, he says, 19 years ago in Kentucky, J. W. Gray, who came here a week ago from Texas, surrendered to the Eureka police and asked that the Kentucky authorities be notified. The police at first were skeptical of the story, but by chance a man was found here who had knowledge of the case and identified Gray. Word was then sent to the Kentucky officials.

Fruit to Be Quarantined.

Sacramento — State Horticultural Commissioner Cook has declared a quarantine against Mexico, prohibiting the shipping of guavas and mangoes from that country and requiring the fumigation of oranges shipped into California either by rail or steamer. The order is aimed at the so-called orange fly of Mexico.

CORRUPTION IS CHARGED.

Culberson Accuses Committees and Wants Investigation.

Washington, D. C. — Demanding an investigation into campaign expenditures in 1904 and 1908, Senator Culberson, of Texas, in the senate, made sweeping charges of corruption against the Republican committee for those and other years.

Indirectly he charged that foreign ambassadorships were bestowed as a reward for campaign contributions and inferentially that ex-President Roosevelt had condoned the use of money in politics.

Mr. Culberson's address was made in anticipation of an unfavorable report by the committee on contingent expenses on his resolution providing for an investigation.

Referring especially to the campaign of 1908, Mr. Culberson said that the contributions to the Democratic fund had been made by 74,000 persons, with \$15,000 as the largest, while those to the Republican fund were made by 12,330 persons, with Charles P. Taft, brother of the president, at their head with a donation of \$110,000. Among the contributors mentioned were Ambassadors Reid and Kerens and Minister Lars Anderson.

"It has been estimated," he said, "that the enormous and unconscionable sum of \$11,000,000, was raised and probably expended by the committee of which he was chairman. The very size and audacity of the fund, if approximately correct, smacks of extortion, profligacy and corruption. Who contributed it and where did it come from?"

COERCION IS CHECKED.

Land Office Issues Circular Limiting Activities of Agents.

Washington, D. C. — Relief from unwarranted activities by special agents of the General Land office is promised in a new circular of instructions soon to be issued. Many entries on lands withdrawn as coal lands have been complaining that after being induced to sign agreements for limited patents, with the understanding the patent would issue without delay, they have been informed their patent would not issue until the land had been examined.

Representative Mondell, author of the law under which settlers may secure patent to surface of coal lands, protested to the commissioner general of the land office. It was charged that special agents were in many cases using coercive methods to secure signatures of settlers to agreements to take limited patents.

The commissioner agreed to issue new circulars warning the special agents that this practice must cease, and that when they have informed the settler of his rights in the matter their duty ends.

HARVESTER FEUD FLOURISHES

Concerns Have Had No Business Dealings for Years.

Washington, D. C. — James A. Farrell, president of the United States Steel corporation, surprised the Stanley "steel trust" investigating committee with the statement that the Steel corporation and the International Harvester company have had no business dealings with each other for five or six years.

The information, coming on the eve of a proposed congressional investigation of the harvester company, in which it will be sought to show as an existing condition that the harvester company and the Steel corporation had interlocking directors and that the latter gave rebates to the former on steel, was doubly surprising.

Mr. Farrell said that the harvester company had a boycott on the Steel corporation and that the trouble started as a "mere quibble between salesmen."

Hand Presses Will Stay.

Washington D. C. — The senate refused by a vote of 20 to 34 to consider the printing bill that would supplant with power presses the hand presses now in the bureau of engraving. Democrats generally voted against the measure and Republicans divided. The bill codifies the printing laws and provides that power presses be used in printing paper money for the government. This provision is being bitterly fought by labor organizations. Senator Reed, of Missouri, objected to consideration of the bill.

Astoria Enters Protest.

Washington, D. C. — Protests have been received by the Oregon delegation in congress from the Astoria chamber of commerce against the proposed consolidation of the Oregon customs districts. The protest recites that 2,000 coasting and 68 foreign vessels entered and departed at Astoria last year without going to Portland. If any change be made, it is urged that the Coos bay and Yaquina bay districts be added to Astoria.

Sitka Station Abandoned.

Juneau, Alaska — The United States marine barracks, maintained at Sitka for 30 years, has been ordered abandoned by the Navy department as an unnecessary expense to the government. The only duty of the marines for years has been the guarding of 10,000 tons of coal stored on Japansky island for naval purposes.

Postal Savings Banks Ordered.

Washington, D. C. — Postal savings banks will be opened at the following places on February 20: Jacksonville, Monmouth and Myrtle Point, Or.; Rosalia, Shelton and Sumner, Wash.; Hagerman, Idaho.

AID HOMESTEADERS

Three-Year Homestead Bill Favored By Committee.

Jones Bill Granting Three Months' Leave of Absence in Each Year Also Approved.

Washington, D. C. — By a unanimous vote, the senate committee on public lands combined and favorably reported the Borah three-year homestead bill and the Jones bill granting homesteaders six months' leave of absence in each year of residence.

As the bill is reported, homesteaders, after the first six months of continuous residence upon their land, will be entitled to leave their homestead for six months in each succeeding year, the time when absent to be counted as part of the three years' residence required by law. Thus, the homesteader will be able to get title after cultivating his land for three successive summers, and will be permitted to be away from his land each winter to earn money elsewhere.

The committee was unanimous in reporting the bill and it will be called up and unquestionably will pass the senate at an early date. This combined bill is in direct line with the reform urged by Senator Borah in his speech last week. So effective was that speech that many eastern senators stand ready to vote for the measure, which is framed to facilitate the acquirement of title by homesteaders.

It is believed that the bill will pass without opposition. The bill applies to enlarged homesteads, as well as to 160-acre entries.

OLD CHARGE REVIVED.

Eugene Schmitz, ex-Mayor of San Francisco, in Court.

San Francisco — Eugene E. Schmitz, ex-mayor of San Francisco, was unexpectedly brought to trial in Judge Lawlor's court on the old bribery charges that have been pending against him for nearly five years.

After gaining a postponement until January 30, Judge Lawlor reconsidered his action and sent word to Schmitz and his attorney, Frank Drew, and the district attorney to appear in court ready for trial. It was generally understood that the district attorney would ask for a dismissal of the case, believing that there was little likelihood of obtaining a conviction, because of insufficiency of evidence.

Had the case gone over to January 30, it would have been within a few days of the time when it could have been outlawed through the statute of limitations.

The indictment on which Schmitz is brought to trial is one of 14 returned against him for bribery in connection with the gas cases. The specific offense is the alleged payment of a bribe of \$750 to ex-Supervisor Wilson. The indictments were returned on May 24, 1907.

Imperial Troops In Revolt.

Pekin — Two thousand imperial troops stationed at the city of Siang Yang in the province of Hupeh to the northwest of Hankow are reported to have revolted in favor of the republic. The excitement in Peking is diminishing, owing to the slowness of developments, and the precautions for Premier Yuan Shi Kai's safety have been lessened.

Persistent reports that the Japanese are assisting the Manchus are said in authoritative circles to be utterly unfounded.

Fishermen Get \$60,600.

Astoria — The Union Fishermen's Cooperative Packing company, at the annual meeting of its stockholders, distributed about \$60,600 among its fishermen, regardless of whether or not they were stockholders in the company. This distribution was in proportion to the amount of fish caught by each individual and was on a basis of \$20 a ton for Columbia river spring salmon; \$8 a ton for fall fish; \$10 a ton for Shoalwater Bay fish and \$20 a ton for fish caught at Nehalem Bay.

Mother Fights School Laws.

Olympia, Wash. — Declaring she will never pay the fine nor permit anyone else to pay it, Mrs. Nellie Hines, with her 8-months-old babe in her arms, was taken to jail here to serve out 30 days, following failure to pay a fine of \$25, assessed for refusing to send her children to school. She has announced that the children are in danger of contagion if they attend, and although arrested four times has declined to obey the court's order.

Liner Smashes Cruiser.

Honolulu — In a collision between the Hamburg-American liner Cleveland and the United States armored cruiser Colorado, the Colorado suffered considerable damage. The collision occurred when the Cleveland was being brought into the harbor by Pilot Sanders. The Colorado was at anchor in the harbor.

"Sundry Law" in Bad Way.

Salt Lake City — The Sunday law under which the new commission government has been closing cigar stands, fruit stands, bakeries, barber shops and stores, was found in the city court to be suffering from a complication of infirmities which probably will cause it to be placed on the retired list.

PACKERS' WAY X-RAYED.

Government Asserts Firm Bought Up and Killed Competition.

Chicago — Evidence that the National Packing company was one of the agencies used by the alleged packers' combination to destroy competition was given in the trial of the ten defendants charged with criminal violation of the Sherman law.

By the books of the National Packing company, the government showed that the corporation acquired by purchase 13 competitors after its organization in March, 1903, and that the price paid for these independent concerns was \$8,000,000. A majority of these packing concerns thereupon were closed.

The packers have contended all along, according to the theory of the government, that the sole object of organizing the National Packing company was to operate the 15 independent packing companies purchased in 1902 to put in the proposed \$1,000,000,000 merger, which was abandoned because of the inability of its promoters to finance it.

This contention was upheld by the government in evidence showing the National Packing company purchased 13 competing companies after its organization.

MAKES JAILER VICTIM.

Lawyer Retained, Also Paid With Bad Check by Prisoner.

Los Angeles — Frank C. Smith, alias Dr. J. C. Day, who was arrested in Portland and is held in the county jail awaiting trial on a charge of embezzlement, has added another original chapter to his career by passing bad checks on his jailer and his lawyer when in a state of incarceration. So far as known he is the only prisoner confined here who ever succeeded in such a feat.

Smith's victims were George Gallagher, chief jailer of the county institution, and the law firm of Wisler & Vermilyea. The prisoner retained Henry M. Wisler to defend him. One check was given the attorney as a retaining fee, while Gallagher got his in payment for certain exceptional privileges accorded prisoners who are able to pay for extra comforts.

Both checks came back from the South Spring Street bank, on which they were drawn, bearing the notation, "No funds." Smith had secured some cash and special privileges for the checks.

DUKE VIEWS NEW YORK.

Royal Party Much Impressed by Growth of Metropolis.

New York — The royal trio of Connaughts—the duke, duchess and Princess Patricia—had their first opportunity Wednesday to make something like an intimate acquaintance with American life. They viewed it in at least three distinct phases.

From the tower of the highest office building in the world they surveyed the forest of downtown skyscrapers, and with the aid of glasses they viewed the entire metropolitan district for 25 miles around.

At the foot of the tower, after they had shot down 8 floors in an elevator, they came face to face with their first American "mob." More than 500 persons beset the ducal party and by sheer force the party made its way to automobiles.

The royal visitors met nearly 300 of New York's society folk at a ball in the home of Ambassador Reid.

The impressions New York has made upon the duke have been but meagerly told in the exclamation that the city has changed wonderfully since his visit here as Prince Arthur in 1888.

Surgeon May Tell All.

New York — The rule that a physician may not reveal any of the secrets of his consultation room does not apply when the physician is suing to recover for the value of his services, according to the ruling of the courts here in a suit brought by a New York surgeon against Malcolm D. Whitman, former national lawn tennis champion. Whitman moved to strike all allegations relating to the service performed, contending the doctor was not permitted by law to make them public.

Oil Is Fined \$55,000.

Buffalo, N. Y. — The Standard Oil company, of New York, was fined \$55,000 by Judge Hazel in the United States District court in this city for 143 violations of the interstate commerce law in accepting rate concessions in 1904 and 1905 from the Pennsylvania and New York Central railroads on shipments of oil from Olean, N. Y., to Burlington, Vt. The maximum possible fine in the Standard Oil case would have been \$2,860,000.

Spokane to Aid Pupils.

Spokane — For the immediate relief of 200 or more Spokane school children who are forced to attend school unfed, the city commissioners authorized the city charity board to make an appropriation of any sum the board may find sufficient. The plan is to establish lunch counters at the schools for use of all the children, those affording it to pay for what they get and those who cannot be handed meal tickets privately by the teachers.

Nonunion Men Walk Out.

Houston, Tex. — So-called strike-breakers, numbering 150, employed in the Harriman line shops here, walked out shortly before noon Wednesday. They declared they had declined to assent to a charge of 50 cents a day for meals. It is said the company had been giving them free board since the inauguration of the strike here October 19.

NERVOUS IN PUBLIC

MANY WORLD-FAMED SPEAKERS NEVER OVERCOME THIS.

With Some It Persists as Mannerisms — Yawn and Handkerchief of Late Duke of Devonshire—Gladstone's Peculiar Actions.

Persons who are unaccustomed to speak in public believe that their nervousness is solely due to their inexperience, and that public men can make speeches as coolly as they make conversation. In some cases this may be so, but few speakers are ever able wholly able to cast off their nervousness. Sometimes it persists only in the form of a mannerism, attractive or otherwise, but some old parliamentarians never escape from the tremors and terrors which shook them when their maiden speech was delivered.

The late duke of Devonshire is usually spoken of as the perfect type of the impassive Englishman. When he entered the house of commons as Lord Cavendish, he distinguished himself by prefacing his maiden speech with a prodigious yawn. But he was by no means as languid in fact as he was in appearance.

When he rose to speak he would lean one arm on the nearest of the two iron-bound boxes on the table before the front benches. After a slight hesitation and a few quiet words, the other hand would steal to the tail pocket of his coat and emerge holding a neatly-folded white cambric handkerchief. Without unfolding it he would gently rub the corners of his mouth, and this done, the hand, still holding the handkerchief, would rest on the hip or be thrown back.

Sitting near him, one could observe that the grip on his handkerchief tightened, and that the muscles of the hand were in continuous action. At the close of his speech the hand opened, and one saw not the clean, folded cambric handkerchief, but only a solid, greasy ball, which was quickly returned to the pocket. Here was the safety valve for the impassive nobleman's nervousness.

Gladstone was one in whom nervousness had become mannerism. When he rose to speak he began with a few graceful words on the speech which was about to follow, or some pointed remark as to the character and importance of the subject. In his earlier days this was, no doubt to "get his breath."

His next act was to raise his right hand over his head with the thumb bent down and gently scratch his skull. That is rather common among public speakers. The third action of Mr. Gladstone was his peculiar and individual sign. Throwing his arms downward by his side, he would with his fingers seize the cuffs of his coat and draw these down over his shirt cuffs so as to conceal them completely. The ordinary practice is just the reverse, the desire being to expose and not conceal the white linen of the shirt cuffs. These were the invariable preludes to the great orator's speeches.—Pall Mall Magazine.

Not in the Library.

Mr. Claptrap arrived at the circulating library the other day with his hands full of small packages and as cross as two sticks because his wife had asked him to fulfill some commissions for her while he was out. With a look which was just as disagreeable as he felt he handed to the little librarian a list which he had made to aid his memory.

"My wife wants these books," he said gruffly. "Be quick about getting them, if you please. I'm in a great hurry."

The girl, who was a trifle shy and inexperienced, flushed, and, saying that he should have the books directly, went to look for them. She was gone some time and when she returned he glared at her indignantly and asked if she expected him to "wait all day."

"I'm very sorry," she apologized, "but you see I've been looking for the last book on the list. Here are the other three, but 'Hairpins and Castor Oil' I can't find and—I'm afraid it isn't in the library."

"Good heavens!" groaned Mr. Claptrap, quite crestfallen. "Did I put those things down in the book list?"

In Praise of Modesty.

Reginald De Koven told at a musicale in Chicago a pretty story in praise of modesty.

"A group of tourists," he said, "visited Beethoven's house in Bonn. One of the tourists, a girl of twenty or so, sat down at Beethoven's piano and played the 'Moonlight Sonata' none too well. Beethoven's own work, in his own room, on his own piano!"

"When the girl had finished, she rose and said to the old caretaker: 'I suppose lots of famous musicians have been here and played on this instrument?'"

"Well, miss, the caretaker answered gravely, 'Paderewski was here last year, and his friends urged him to play, but he shook his head and said: 'No, I am not worthy.'"

A Good One.

"Is little Mrs. Blings' worthless husband going to dine home on Thanksgiving day?"

"No; I understand he is going to stay away for a culinary reason."

"A culinary reason?"

"Yes, he knows his goose is cooked."

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY

CHURCHES.

Church of the Visitation, Verboort — Rev. L. A. LeMiller, pastor. Sunday Early Mass at 8 a. m.; High Mass at 10:30 a. m.; Vesper at 3:00 p. m. Week days Mass at 8:30 a. m.

Christian Science Hall, 115 Fifth st., between First and Second ave. South—Services Sundays at 11 a. m.; Sunday school at 12 m.; mid-week meeting Wednesdays at 7:30 p. m.

Free Methodist church, Fourth st., between First and Second Avenue. J. F. Leise, Pastor. Sunday School at 10 a. m.; preaching at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.; Prayer meeting Wednesday 7:30 p. m.

Seventh Day Adventist Church, 3rd street—Sabbath school 2 p. m., preaching 3 p. m. each Saturday. Midweek prayer meeting Wednesday 7:30 p. m. A cordial welcome. H. W. Vallmer, Elder.

Catholic Services, Rev. J. R. Buck, pastor. Forest Grove—Chapel at cor. of 3rd street and 3rd avenue south. 1st and 4th Sundays of the month, Mass at 8:30; 2nd and 3rd Sundays of the month, Mass 10:30. Cornelius — 1st Sunday of the month, Mass at 10:30; 3rd Sunday of the month, Mass at 8:00. Seghers—2nd Sunday of the month, Mass at 8:00; 4th Sunday of the month, Mass at 10:30.

M. E. Church, Rev. Hiram Gould, pastor. Second street, between First and Second avenues. Sunday school at 10 a. m.; Epworth League at 6:30 p. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 8:00 p. m. Mid-week prayer meeting Thursday at 7:30 p. m.

Christian Church, corner Third st. and First Ave. Rev. C. H. Hilton, pastor. Bible school at 10 a. m.; preaching at 11 a. m. and 8:00 p. m.; Prayer meeting Thursday at 8:00 p. m.

Congregational Church, College Way and First ave. north. Rev. D. T. Thomas—Sunday school 10 a. m.; Morning service 11 a. m.; evening, 8:00 p. m.; Junior C. E. at 3 p. m.; Senior C. E. at 6:30 p. m.

LODGES.

Knights of Pythias—Delphos Lodge No. 36, meets every Thursday at K. of P. Hall. Chas. Staley, C. C.; Reis Ludwig, Keeper of Records and Seal. G. A. R.—J. B. Mathews Post No. 6, meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p. m., in K. of P. hall. John Baldwin, Commander.

Masonic—Holbrook Lodge No. 30, A. F. & A. M., regular meetings held first Saturday in each month. P. W. Kinzer, W. M.; A. A. Ben Kori, secretary.

W. O. W.—Forest Grove Camp No. 98, meets in Woodmen Hall, every Saturday. A. J. Parker, C. C.; James H. Davis, Clerk.

Artisans—Diamond Assembly No. 27, meets every Tuesday in K. of P. Hall. C. B. Stokes, M. A.; John Boldrick, Secretary.

Rebekahs—Forest Lodge No. 44, meets the first, third and fifth Wednesdays of each month. Miss Alice Crook, N. G.; Secretary, Miss Carrie Austin.

I. O. O. F.—Washington Lodge No. 48, meets every Monday in I. O. O. F. Hall. V. S. Abraham, N. G.; Robert Taylor, Secretary.

Modern Woodmen of America—Camp No. 6228, meets the second and fourth Friday of each month. A. L. Sexton, Consul; Geo. G. Paterson, Clerk.

Rosewood Camp, No. 3835 R. N. A., meets first and third Fridays of each month in I. O. O. F. Hall. Mrs. M. S. Allen, Oracle; Mrs. Winnifred Aldrich, Recorder.

Gale Grange No. 282, P. of H., meets the first Saturdays of each month in the K. of P. Hall. A. T. Buxton, Master; Mrs. H. J. Rice, Secretary.

CITY.

Mayor—G. S. Allen.

Recorder—M. R. Markham.

Treasurer—R. P. Wirtz.

Chief of Police—P. W. Watkins.

Health Officer—Dr. J. S. Bishop.

Councilmen—John Wirtz, Carl L. Hinman, O. M. Sanford, Rev. J. M. Barber, W. F. Schultz, H. B. Johnson.

man, O. M. Sanford and John McNamer.

CITY SCHOOL.

School Directors—M. Peterson, Mrs. Edward Seymour, H. T. Buxton.

Clerk—R. P. Wirtz.

Justice of the Peace—W. J. R. Beach.

Constable—Carl Hoffman.

COUNTY.

Judge—R. O. Stevenson.

Sheriff—George G. Hancock.

Clerk—John Bailey.

Recorder—T. L. Perkins.

Treasurer—E. B. Sappington.

Surveyor—Geo. McCree.

Coroner—E. C. Brown.

Commissioners—John McClaran, John Nyberg.

School Supt.—M. C. Case.

S. P. TIME TABLE.

North Bound.

Sheridan No. 4 8:27 a. m.
Corvallis No. 2 4:53 p. m.

South Bound.

Corvallis No. 1 8:44 a. m.
Sheridan No. 3 6:00 p. m.

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The Live Paper with All the News. Only \$1 per year. The Press is equipped to do, and does, the Best Job Printing. Everything in this line done to please. Prices right.