

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

AFTER LUMBER TRUST.

Government Extends Inquiry to Every Producing Section.

Washington, April 26.—The investigation of the lumber trust is now in full swing. It is regarded by the bureau of corporations as the most comprehensive and far reaching of any yet undertaken. The information obtained will be used by the department of justice in prosecuting the trust, if such action is warranted.

A preliminary inquiry regarding prices has already been concluded. Special agents are now being sent to all the principal districts where lumber is produced to ascertain facts relative to production and the restraint of competition. Every section of the country will be visited by these agents.

Data now collected show the steady and uniform advance in prices for all kinds of lumber during the past ten years. There was a remarkable increase of cost prices in 1906. The figures collected show that the diminishing supply of timber is not alone responsible for the great advance in prices.

Commissioner Smith will make a special effort to ascertain why lumber prices were so sharply advanced in 1906. It is believed to have been the result of combination control in violation of the Sherman anti-trust law.

Canal Zone's Health Record.

Washington, April 26.—Health conditions on the canal zone are about as good now as they ever will be, according to a report from Colonel Gorgas, chief sanitary officer, for the month of March, just received at the offices of the Isthmian Canal commission. Since last August the number of sick among the employees has steadily declined until it is now 19.40 men per 1,000 as against 33.72 in August. Among 4,500 Americans, white, employed there were only two deaths from disease during March.

More Pay for Rural Carriers.

Washington, May 1.—Postmaster General Meyer has approved the detailed adjustment of salaries of rural free delivery carriers. The new schedule which will make a graded increase in the compensation of carriers of from 9 to 25 per cent, based on the number of miles traveled. The readjustment adoption with the increase of upward of \$6,000,000 made in the appropriation bill by congress will involve an aggregate expenditure for rural service, during the next fiscal year of nearly \$35,000,000.

Taft Back at Work.

Washington, April 25.—Secretary Taft yesterday resumed his routine duties at the War department. The fact that it was cabinet day made it necessary for him to cut short the time allowed to callers. It is doubtful if in his Washington experience the secretary has had to deal with more newspaper men than he saw during the day. They were mainly desirous to learn just what the secretary intended to do in answer to the challenge which Senator Foraker had issued in regard to the contest in Ohio.

May Build Bridge.

Washington, April 25.—Permission has been granted the Southern Pacific by the War department to erect a railroad bridge across the Willamette river, starting at a point near Oswego, on the West Side, and terminating near Milwaukie, from which point the road will reach the Southern Pacific car shops. The grant is not exactly to the liking of the railroad interests, as certain minor restrictions are placed on it.

Many Dead Letters.

Washington, April 27.—All previous records for a day's work in returning letters to writers from the division of dead letters were eclipsed on Monday last when 20,368 letters were returned. The largest number heretofore returned in a single day was 14,488 on March 28. The number of letters on hand awaiting return has been reduced to 63,000. A little over a month ago there were over 200,000 of such letters on hand.

No Hope of Agreement.

Washington, April 25.—The Central American controversy is no nearer settlement today than it was yesterday, according to a dispatch received today at the State department from Philip Brown, the American charge at Guatemala, cabling from La Union, Salvador. Mr. Brown stated that the deadlock was still on. He held out no hope of an early agreement.

How Roads May Be Made.

Washington, April 27.—Senators Fulton and Bourne are asking for the assignment of Samuel C. Lanaster, government road expert, to Oregon, Washington and Idaho for one year as instructor in modern road building. Samuel Hill, of the Washington Good Roads association, is here, interested in the project.

Brown and Roosevelt Confer.

Washington, April 30.—President Roosevelt had an extended conference with W. O. Brown, senior vice president of the New York Central railroad, today. Mr. Brown would say nothing about his talk with the president, but admitted that he had "talked a little" about the railroad situation with Mr. Roosevelt.

San Domingo Favors Treaty.

Washington, April 25.—Minister Dawson, at San Domingo, cables that yesterday the treaty with the United States was favorably reported to the senate. Its consideration was entrusted to three senators, two of whom filed a report in its favor, and the third a report in opposition.

Hero of Russo-Japanese War.

Washington, April 25.—Baron Kuroki, second in command of the Japanese forces in the Japanese-Russian war, will land at Seattle May 2 and come East via the Oregon Short Line. It is possible he will visit Portland on the way. He is here to see the Jamestown exposition.

STATE CAN SELECT LANDS.

Interior Department Sends Out New Regulations to Registrars.

Washington, April 30.—The commissioner of the general land office has issued instructions to registrars of local land offices concerning the selection of lands by states and territories under grants for educational and other purposes, under regulations approved by the secretary of the interior last Wednesday.

Under the new regulations the states will be permitted to make indemnity school land selections in lieu of fractional portions of legal subdivisions, which heretofore has been prohibited, and notice of all selections made by the state is required to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the lands selected are situated. A few other modifications are made, designed to facilitate the selection of lands by the state officers.

Instructions also have been issued to local land offices regarding the disposition of lands withdrawn from coal entries, both as to lands known to lie within a known coal field and the lands outside of such fields. The land offices will be furnished with geological survey township maps, showing known coal fields, and entries of such lands will be reserved.

Lands heretofore withdrawn from entry and not released will be considered as coal lands. Coal filings made within 60 days prior to withdrawal from coal entry may be completed within the time prescribed by the statutes, less the time from date of such withdrawals to date of special written notice of filing of maps and lists in the local land offices. Lands not coal lands may be entered under any of the public land laws applicable to the particular tract.

Want Republican Convention.

Washington, April 27.—President Roosevelt today discussed national politics and some of the business of the Republican national convention with its acting chairman, Harry S. New, who remained with the president some time. With the newspaper men Mr. New would not talk politics. He said, however, that four cities are already in the field for the honor of holding the next national convention of the Republican party, invitations having been received from Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City and Seattle. A selection will be made by the national committee at its meeting here in December.

Uncle Sam's Sweet Tooth.

Washington, May 1.—The consumption of sugar in the United States in the fiscal year which ends with June will probably exceed that of any other year in the history of the country. The total quantity of sugar imported in the nine months ending with March last was 3,692,000 pounds in round figures, while the quantity for the same period in 1903, the record year, was 3,606,000,000. It is estimated that the production of sugar in this country in 1906 was 1,340,000,000 pounds, 14,000 pounds greater than 1903.

Borah Denies Rumors.

Washington, April 25.—"I have not come to Washington to make an appeal to the president or to the department of justice," said Senator Borah, of Idaho, as he left the White House today after a brief call upon the president. This statement was made by the senator when his attention was called to reports that he had come East to induce the officials here to call a halt upon the Federal officials in his state in the matter of the alleged indictment of persons charged with having been engaged in timber land frauds.

Change in Signal Corps.

Washington, May 1.—Colonel Richard E. Thompson, signal corps, is relieved from duty as chief signal officer, department of California, and will proceed to Seattle for duty as chief signal officer, department of the Columbia, and as officer in charge of the Washington-Alaska military cable and telegraph system, relieving Lieutenant Colonel William Glassford, who will proceed to San Francisco for duty as chief signal officer, department of California.

Statue of Gen. McClellan.

Washington, April 30.—The most interesting event of the 37th annual reunion of the society of the Army of the Potomac this week will be the unveiling on May 2 of the heroic bronze equestrian statue of General George B. McClellan, organizer and first commander of the army of the Potomac. President Roosevelt will make the principal speech. About 5,000 troops, regulars and militia, will participate in the ceremonies.

New Postmasters Appointed.

Washington, April 30.—The following postmasters are appointed: Oregon—Rex, Jennie Conrad, vice W. H. Lashier, resigned; Whitehouse, William A. Hobough, vice Edward Minor, resigned. Washington—Jerry, Clark H. Johnson, vice E. E. Thompson, resigned. A postoffice is established at Yach, Tillamook county, Oregon, with Frank Yach postmaster.

Keeps Attorney General Posted.

Washington, April 25.—District Attorney Ruick went to Baltimore today and conferred with Attorney General Bonaparte regarding the Borah indictment, Idaho land fraud and Haywood-Meyer case. When he returned to Washington he declined to discuss what took place in Baltimore.

Accepts Hagerman's Resignation.

Washington, April 30.—A letter was sent from the executive office today accepting "forthwith" the resignation of Herbert J. Hagerman as governor of New Mexico. This means, it is said, that the resignation will be accepted as soon as the president's letter reaches Governor Hagerman.

Moritz, of Oregon, Appointed.

Washington, April 27.—E. A. Moritz, of Oregon, has been appointed assistant engineer of the reclamation service.

GOVERNOR TO INVESTIGATE.

Insane of Illinois Kept in Vildest Conditions.

Chicago, April 26.—Sensational revelations of the horrors of county insane asylums, including the chaining of young girls, forcing patients to sleep in coffin-like boxes and subjecting women to indescribable indignities, have aroused such indignation that Governor Deneen announces he will call a special session of the legislature if the present session does not appropriate sufficient funds to place the insane patients in charge of the state.

Some of the revolting conditions that are set forth in the report to the governor are:

That steel handcuffs, barred cells, cages, padlocks and ankle chains are in use, girls 20 years old being found in steel cages with their ankles chained.

That insane women in many institutions bear illegitimate and idiotic children.

That in most institutions there are no facilities for bathing, and in some of the places the patients have not had baths for 15 years. In others bathing is optional. In still others there is but one bath tub, and that used optionally by both sexes.

That a majority of the county institutions are vermin ridden, have no ventilation, use filthy bedclothes, are cold and damp, the patients illly clad and the houses fire traps.

That in a number of places the sexes are permitted to mingle without restraint, old men being found caring for young girls.

That some of the houses are "not fit for human habitation."

That boxes are used for sleeping quarters, some of the patients being padlocked in boxes little bigger than caskets, with small airholes cut out.

That in 54 institutions there is no separation of the insane from the paupers.

That primitive toilet facilities exist, with shocking sanitary conditions.

DECLINES TO BE RUSHED.

California Supreme Court to Hear Ruef's Case in Order.

San Francisco, April 26.—Abraham Ruef's application for release on bail from the custody of Elmer Biggy, by writ of habeas corpus, will not be decided at today's conference of the Supreme court, according to a statement to the Associated Press by Chief Justice Beatty, who said:

"The impression seems to have gotten abroad that there is great urgency for an immediate decision in this matter. There is no urgency. The matter stands very well as it is. We do not view it as taking precedence over other matters pending, and it will not be determined until reached in due course. There are many other pressing and far more important matters engaging the court at present."

Demurrers to the nine indictments for bribery which confront Louis Glass, vice president of the Pacific States Telephone company, were submitted today in Judge Lawlor's court by Attorney J. C. Coogan. Glass was present.

After the reading of one of the demurrers, the case was by agreement put over until next Tuesday.

MAY PROSECUTE THIEVES.

Pennsylvania Capitol Commission Has Evidence of Much Graffiti.

Harrisburg, Pa., April 26.—As a result of the investigation by the legislative commission into the expenditure of \$9,000,000 for furnishings and decorations for the new state capitol, it is probable that criminal proceedings will be instituted by the state against certain persons who have prominently figured in the construction. The commission has been investigating the charges of extravagance, overcharges, duplications in payment of bills and fraud for nearly two months and has yet to take the testimony of many important persons who have knowledge of the subject under investigation. Among those to be examined is ex-Governor Pennypacker.

Whether civil suits can be brought has not been determined, but members of the commission are convinced that it has been demonstrated that criminal action can be brought.

Urge Dissolution of Douma.

St. Petersburg, April 26.—Several provincial governors have arrived in St. Petersburg to support the movement for dissolution of parliament upon the ground that the debates are causing agitation and ferment. This, it is alleged, is especially noticeable in the provinces where the agrarian disorders of 1905-06 occurred. The panic feeling among the Liberals as to the possibility of dissolution of parliament has subsided, owing to the cordial manner in which the emperor received Premier Golovin.

Tropical War Ends.

San Salvador, April 26.—A treaty of peace between Salvador and Nicaragua was signed last night by ministers representing each country at Amapala. The terms of the treaty are honorable to both countries. The conditions proposed by Salvador were accepted, but the demands made by President Zevallos, of Nicaragua, for reparations for Salvador's part in the recent war between Nicaragua and Honduras and that there be a free interchange of commodities between Nicaragua and Salvador were rejected.

Bonilla Is Still Warlike.

Coahuila, Mexico, April 26.—Ex-President Manuel Bonilla, of Honduras, arrived here last night direct from his own country via Salina Cruz. He declares he will await here the arrival of a steamer from the south which will bring a friend and then will proceed to Belize and from there back to his own country to take up arms. He takes a pessimistic view of the conditions and outlook in Central America.

Arrange Tariff for Year.

Berlin, April 26.—It is understood that the new provisional tariff between Germany and the United States shall endure for one year and that it will prolong itself automatically if no notice of a change be given.

OPENS EXPOSITION SHORTAGE IMMENSE

President Roosevelt Presses Button and Starts Wheels.

ALSO DELIVERS ADDRESS OF DAY

Big Fair Commemorating 300th Anniversary of First English Settlement in America Is Opened.

Norfolk, Va., April 27.—President Roosevelt, the diplomatic, naval and military representatives of foreign nations and the governors of a score of states participated yesterday in the opening exercises of the Jamestown Tercentennial exposition. The exposition is far from complete, but this was not allowed to interfere in any way with the celebration of the 300th anniversary of the first English settlement in America. From the firing of a salute of 300 guns by the United States army through the picturesque review of the international fleet of war vessels anchored in Hampton Roads, through the ceremonies of dedication, at which the president spoke, and down to a late hour last night, when the chief executive went aboard the naval yacht Sylph to spend the night, the day was crowded with incidents.

The ceremonies were brief, the feature being the addresses of President Roosevelt, of the exposition, and President Roosevelt. The latter, at the conclusion of his address, pressed the gold button which formally marked the opening of the commemorative enterprise.

Then followed an informal luncheon to the president and for the other guests in the administration building. The president later reviewed a parade of United States soldiers and sailors. A reception by the president in the auditorium closed the day's events at the fair grounds.

The people again and again gave vent to their enthusiasm as the president pressed the gold button, which formally opened the exposition. It was the signal for unfurling of a thousand or more flags upon the various buildings. At the same time a signal was given to the United States and foreign warships and all fired a salute to the president.

At present the work is being carried on in 29 different projects. An expenditure of \$46,000,000 will be made and when completed more than 2,000,000 acres of land will have been reclaimed. The freight bills alone last month amounted to \$35,000. The new office is expected to result in a total saving to the service of at least 20 per cent.

BUY SUPPLIES WHOLESALE.

Reclamation Service Saves Money by Concentrating Business.

Chicago, April 25.—For the purpose of obtaining and furnishing supplies necessary in reclaiming the arid regions of the West, the United States reclamation service yesterday opened a new purchasing and transportation office in Chicago. Heretofore all of this business was left in the hands of the engineers in charge of the work, who purchased their supplies from the nearest dealers. It was found, however, that the prices in the past were so excessive that the government had to save money by buying direct from the wholesalers in Chicago and other points.

FIND SECRET OF WRECKS.

New York Railroad Commissioners Say Broken Rails Increase.

Albany, N. Y., April 27.—Broken rails removed from railroad tracks in this state during January, February and March of this year were much more numerous than in the corresponding three months of either of the past two years, according to a bulletin issued today by the state railroad commissioner. The bulletin says:

The unusual number of broken rails reported during the past winter caused the investigation at this time. The board finds that during the three months ending March 31, 1907, there was a total of 3,814 broken rails on principal steam lines of the state. During the corresponding three months of 1906 there was a total of 826, and during the corresponding three months of 1905, a total of 1,331. The matter in detail has been presented to the American Railway association, which is now holding its convention in Chicago, and has requested that the matter be taken up for discussion and action by the railroad managers.

It is probable that the convention will go into the causes of the greatly increased number of breakages and that the matter will be discussed as to causes and a conference arranged with rail manufacturers with a view to discovering if the alarming number of breakages is due to method of manufacture or metal composition.

Assailed by Masked Men.

Montrose, Colo., April 27.—While on their way to the sheep range in this county with a large herd from Frisco, Utah, three herders, Grover Cornett, Peter Swanson and Al Swanson, were set upon by seven masked men last night at White Water, Colo., 55 miles west of here. Peter Swanson was shot and mortally wounded and his companions bound hand and foot and left helpless on the prairie. News of the shooting has stirred the cattlemen and sheepmen in this vicinity and a search for the perpetrators is in progress.

More Money for Famine Relief.

St. Petersburg, April 27.—The famine relief committee of the lower house of parliament today discussed the supplementary credit of \$11,500,000 for famine relief, the bill for which was submitted to parliament April 13 by Premier Stolypin, who asked for the earliest discussion of the measure on account of the urgency of the situation. The committee decided to recommend the immediate appropriation of \$2,500,000 for famine relief, the government to withhold the balance, pending the report of the ministry.

Take Buffalo Herd to Canada.

Denver, April 27.—A message was received in this city today to the effect that the famous Pablo herd of buffalo at the Flathead reservation in Montana, had been sold to the Canadian government. Howard Eaton, of Wolf, Wyoming, telegraphed W. F. Kendrick, a Denver mining man, that the Canadian government had paid a deposit on the herd. The bulls will be removed to Canada about May, and the cows and calves in July.

Will Paint Artillery Gray.

Berlin, April 27.—Emperor William has ordered that the field guns, gun carriages and ammunition wagons of the German artillery be painted a dull gray. The change is based upon the experiences of the Russo-Japanese war.

SUPPOSE WE SMILE.

HUMOROUS PARAGRAPHS FROM THE COMIC PAPERS.

Pleasant Incidents Occurring the World Over—Sayings that are Cheerful to Old or Young—Funny Selections that Everybody Will Enjoy.

"Have you a match?" asked the gossip who had dropped into the busy man's office for a chat. "My cigar has gone out."

"It seems to have the advantage of you," remarked the busy man.

"How's that?"

"It knows its place."

A Contrary Man.

"Who is that man who goes by here carrying an umbrella on clear days and having none on stormy days?"

"Oh, that's Billings, the government weather forecaster."

Family Pride.

Rooster—Talk about your pedigree stock, huh! Well, my father was a \$500 rooster and my mother was a \$49 incubator. How's that for ancestors?

Scared Them.

"Why is it that none of the college fellows ever fall in love with that pretty Miss Smith?"

"They're afraid of her; she won't win a debating contest once."—Roseleaf.

Stomach the Way to the Heart.

Missionary—And do you know nothing whatever of religion?

Cannibal—Well, we got a taste of it when the last missionary was here.—Cleveland Leader.

Another Husband's Query.

"Here is a woman who wants a divorce because her husband wouldn't let her talk."

"I wonder what his recipe is?"—Roseleaf.

She Knew Her Little Book.

Maud—What! You accepted him right off; you should have asked a week to think it over.

Belle—And give him a week to think it over, too!—Boston Transcript.

According to Law.

Magistrate—How old are you, madam?

Witness—According to your own ruling, I don't know.

Magistrate—Why, how is that?

Witness—You stated that hearsay was not conclusive evidence, did you not?

Magistrate—Yes; but—

Witness (interrupting)—Well, I am told that I am so many years old, but, as you must know, it is only hearsay.

Real Thing.

"Ah," exclaimed the husband upon his return from town, "you've succeeded in getting a servant girl, I see."

"Yes, dear," replied his wife, "and she's an angel, too."

"How do you know?" he queried.

"Well, she says she once lived with your mother for three weeks," answered the wife.

High-Flown Notions.

Ready for Emergencies.

Tommy had been forbidden to swim in the river owing to the danger. One day, relates the London Globe, he came home with unmistakable signs of having been in the water. His mother scolded him severely. "But I was tempted so badly, mother," said Tommy. "That's all very well, but how did you come to have your bathing suit with you?" Tommy paused, and then said: "Well, mother, I took my bathing suit along, thinking I might be tempted!"

Deeper Yet.

Tom—I suppose Yerner is deep in love's young dream—

Dick—Oh, he's past that stage. He's troubled with insomnia now.—The Catholic Standard and Times.

True to Life.

Mr. Hardup (entering the nursery) Why, what are all you children hiding for?

Small Boy—Please, papa, Tommy's the bill collector, and he's called with an account.

It Requires Time.

Mrs. Nuwed—I feel now quite satisfied that there is no life so happy as a married one.

Friend—And how long have you been married?

Mrs. Nuwed—Since last Wednesday.

Like unto Solomon.

A blind street musician, reports a Chinese paper, stood on the shore of a river, puzzled how to cross the stream. He implored an oil dealer, who happened to come along, to assist him. The oil dealer had pity on the helpless man, took him on his shoulders, gave him his money bag to hold and carried him across. When he deposited his burden on the other shore the blind man refused to return him his money bag, raised a noise and declared that the money was his property. The matter came before the judge, and each man said on oath that the money belonged to him. The judge finally ordered the bag of money emptied into a water tank, and then suddenly announced that the oil dealer was the owner.

When asked for the reason for his decision, he declared that the money of the oil dealer must certainly show traces of his business, and, indeed, on the surface of the water traces of oil were found.

Once in a great while the head of a large family gets a chance to spend some of the money he earns.

Sweetly Dreaming.

"I'm going to get a nice little wife, I'll have a cozy little home, well-cooked meals, my slippers and pipe ready for me at night and peace and contentment all the days of my life."

"You never ought to marry."

"Why not?"

"When a man has a dream like that he never ought to wake up."—Houston Post.

The Other Words.

"You do well to complain that I make life miserable for you," said the wife. "It sounds well when I recall how when you proposed to me you begged and begged of me to say one word and you would be happy forever."

"Yes," blurted out the harassed husband; "but you didn't stop at that one word!"—Judge.

Beneficial.

"Do you think the libraries and universities you are founding will be of any personal benefit to you?"

"I don't know," answered Mr. Dustin Stax; "they may get the people so interested in books that they will stop worrying about the way we are putting up the cost of nearly everything else."—Washington Star.

A World of Dangers.

"Spiritous beverages," said Mrs. Cumrox, "have wrecked many happy dispositions."

"Yes," answered her husband, "and so have salad, ice cream and coffee taken after 10 o'clock at night."—Washington Star.

Reversing the Order.

"You know that pretty daughter of old Curmudgeon? Young Jinks is paying her attention."

"Then he's also borrowing trouble."—Baltimore American.

Quite Prevalent.

"Here's something new. What do you suppose this circular insanity is?"

"I suppose it is the kind that is going around."—Baltimore American.

Great Mathematician.

"Burnly is one of the most wonderful mathematicians I know."

"I never suspected it."

"He is. Why, when his wife meets him at the front door at 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning, he begins at once to square himself."

Easily Explained.

Mrs. Nugget—You men are such grousches. Now, we women never get so cranky and disagreeable as you do.

Mr. Nugget—No wonder! You haven't any wives to bother you.—Philadelphia Press.

Forced Ambition.