

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

MONEY FOR OLD SOLDIERS.

Government Prepared to Supply Coin for Pension Vouchers.

Washington, Nov. 7.—Word reached the Treasury department today that because of reluctance to part with the currency they have on hand, national banks throughout the country are declining to cash pension vouchers, disbursing officers' drafts and other obligations of the government. Government Treasurer Treat took measures to relieve the condition of affairs and sent telegraphic advices to all the subtreasurers to make prompt payment of currency to all persons holding such checks or drafts of what may be due them. These advices were as follows:

"Upon any national bank forwarding to any subtreasury checks of United States disbursing officer, including pension checks, for payment thereof, if properly indorsed when presented and paid under guarantee by any bank, currency will be shipped in payment thereof by express."

FURTHER LAND REFORMS.

Commissioner Provides for Recording Patents When Papers Lost.

Washington, Nov. 8.—The commissioner of the general land office has formulated a plan whereby parties having some interest in land, patents for which were issued years ago but which have never been called for by the patentee, may, without incurring the expenses of searching for lost duplicate receipts or furnishing abstracts of title, have such patents sent directly to the proper county officer for record.

It is believed that this method will be the means of placing many of these ancient instruments on record and of straightening out title without imposing extra expense upon interested parties other than the fees of county officers. It is said that many valuable tracts are thus involved.

Simplify the Entry Blanks.

Washington, Nov. 7.—The general land office is engaged upon work of revising the forms of applications to make entry under the various public land laws and the consolidation into one form of the application and the necessary affidavits which are required to be executed by each entryman. The idea is to secure uniformity in this matter as to style and size of the forms and at the same time reduce to a minimum the number of papers to be executed by the applicant. Under the new forms but one signature will be required.

Creates Bird Reserve.

Washington, Nov. 7.—The president has created a bird reserve on the west coast of Oregon at Three Arch rocks, and three reserves on the coast of Washington at Flattery Rocks, Quillayute Needles and Kopalits Rock. These reserves are localities where the birds breed in immense numbers and the object of the president is to prevent extermination of the feathered bipeds so far as possible. The reserves embrace the most prolific breeding places along the coast line of the two states.

Throwing Dirt at Panama.

Washington, Nov. 7.—The engineers on the Panama canal continue to increase the amount of excavation each month, according to a cablegram received today at the canal office from Chief Engineer Goethals, on the Isthmus. The total excavation for October reached the unprecedented figure of 1,888,729 cubic yards, as compared with 1,481,207 cubic yards for September. For October last year, the total excavation was 538,254 cubic yards.

Evans Not in Danger.

Washington, Nov. 7.—Rumors that Admiral Evans will be disciplined on account of the speech he made before the Lotus club in New York on Saturday, in which he said his battleships were ready for "a fight or a frolic," are groundless. It is no secret that the fleet will be in fighting trim when it sails, hence the officials of the Navy department say that Admiral Evans be trayed no official secret.

Complete Jetty Soon.

Washington, Nov. 8.—The department has now assured that the jetty at the mouth of the Columbia will be completed in three years. It is thought that the additional \$1,700,000 which was stipulated as the maximum in the last appropriation bill will be sufficient to carry the project to completion when the government believes navigation on the Columbia river will be placed in an admirable situation.

Reject Lumber Bid.

Washington, Nov. 8.—The Cascade Lumber company's bid on 60,000,000 feet of standing timber in the Yakima valley has been rejected, together with all others, by the secretary of the interior. Protests by lumber men against the cruisers' estimate of the amount standing caused inquiry with the result that the secretary determined to dispose of it in another manner.

Changes Cello Plans.

Washington, Nov. 7.—Colonel Roessler, engineer in charge, is revising the plan for work at the Cello canal, because it was found that the foundations are of a character different from that originally claimed. The War department discovered that the plans drawn by the first engineers were based on inaccurate assumptions, necessitating changes.

AFTER FEDERAL CHARTERS.

President Roosevelt Wants to Supervise Trust Companies.

Washington, Nov. 5.—President Roosevelt will recommend to congress a Federal charter for trust companies. This scheme, it is understood, has the indorsement of Secretary of the Treasury Cortelyou and Comptroller of the Currency Ridgely.

President Roosevelt believes that the same care should be exercised in the inspection of trust companies as in the case of national banks. It is held that any trust company refusing to participate in the prestige coming from the possession of a national charter would be viewed with suspicion by the public. Some of the high officials of the administration believe that under the present lack of supervision many of the trust companies are doing business in a manner that is not conducive to public welfare.

Lithographers Come Under Contract.

Washington, Nov. 6.—Eight European lithographers brought here under contract and held at Ellis Island pending a decision on the protest by the American Federation of Labor will be admitted. Secretary Straus based his decision to admit the foreigners on an opinion by Attorney General Bonaparte in a previous similar case, in which the attorney general held that the admission was not in violation of the law, as there was a shortage here of lithographers. Mr. Straus said the present contract had been made in good faith, based on Mr. Bonaparte's ruling. He would consider any new case, he said, on this point, without prejudice.

To Investigate Overcapitalization.

Washington, Nov. 5.—A searching investigation will be made by the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce, according to the prediction of Congressman Mann, of Chicago. Mann talked with the president today concerning the work of the committee. Mann said pressure was being brought to bear to prevent agitation on the ground that it would mean a continuance of the money panic. Mann, however, thinks an agitation would have an opposite effect. He said: "If we cannot get legislation on the subject we will at least have an investigation."

Held in Honorary Jail.

Washington, Nov. 5.—The State department has been advised by the American consul general at Tegucigalpa of the recent arrest and imprisonment at San Pedro, Honduras, of an American citizen, Dr. O. B. Hunter, on charges of a trivial nature, connected with the transfer of a piece of property. The consul general has been instructed to report all the facts to the State department, and upon this presentation instructions will be given to the American minister at Honduras to intervene in the case.

Cancels Sale of Timber.

Washington, Nov. 6.—The secretary of the interior has cancelled the award of sale of timber around Lakes Clealum, Kachess and Kachelus, Washington, recently made to the Wascade Lumber company, of North Yakima. The timber is to be readvertised either by lump sum bids for the timber around each lake or by scaling. On April 7 bids were advertised for the sale of timber around these lakes and also around Bumping lake, involving about 63,000,000 feet of timber, 2,000 telephone poles and 20,000 ties.

Confers With Steel Kings.

Washington, Nov. 6.—President Roosevelt conferred for nearly two hours today with Secretary Root, E. H. Gary, chairman of the United States Steel corporation, and Henry C. Frick, also of that corporation. The only statement obtainable at the White House was to the effect that the conference dealt solely with the financial situation. It was said that the president contemplated no direct statement at this time.

Heirs Seek Large Sum.

Washington, Nov. 6.—Heirs of George Washington are seeking to recover a large sum from the government on account of lands granted to him along the Ohio river and which subsequently were inadvertently given by congress to actual settlers. An administrator of the undistributed assets of his estate was appointed today by the Circuit court of Fairfax county, Virginia, on a petition of the heirs-at-law, Lawrence and S. W. Washington.

Railroads Kill Five Thousand.

Washington, Nov. 9.—Five thousand persons were killed and 76,286 injured in railroad accidents in the fiscal year ended June 30 last, according to figures published today by the interstate commerce commission. This is an increase of 775 in deaths over last year and an increase of 9,577 in the number injured.

Oregon Postmasters Appointed.

Washington, Nov. 6.—Oregon postmasters have been appointed as follows: Alsea, Joseph C. Rayercraft, vice T. R. Chandler, resigned; Bonita, William A. Simmons, vice Nina Jackson, resigned; Rickreall, Daniel W. McPhee, vice M. T. Eakin, resigned.

Wants Canal Widened.

Washington, Nov. 6.—Secretary of the Navy Metcalf today recommended that the width of the Panama canal be increased to 200 feet instead of 110. The recommendation was made in response to a request from the War department.

BEST ASSETS ASSIGNED.

Preferred Creditors Get Cream of Resources of Portland Bank.

Portland, Nov. 8.—Developments yesterday in the bank failure of the Title Guarantee & Trust company were as follows:

Marquam building, included as \$400,000 asset, is not available for meeting claims of depositors, because held as security by Ladd & Tilton, for \$607,000 debt.

Three depositors of broken bank, dissatisfied with appointment of George H. Hill as receiver, petition Federal District court for involuntary bankruptcy, their object being to supplant the receiver with trustee appointed by bank's creditors.

Validity is doubted of assignment to State Treasurer Steel for security for \$395,000 state deposits, of timber land collateral in Benton and Marion counties.

So much of assets of bank are assigned to preferred creditors that it looks as if depositors will suffer heavy loss.

State Treasurer Steel exacted only \$100,000 security for \$395,000 deposits of public funds, thereby violating the law.

It seems likely that Treasurer Steel's bondsmen will be called on by the state to make good the loss of public funds.

The American Surety company has given bond for \$650,000, and six Portland men for \$50,000—J. Thorburn Ross, Wallace McCamant, Louis G. Clarke, J. H. Peterson, M. B. Rankin and J. W. Cook. Ross' liability is \$25,000.

District Attorney Manning hears that the bank received deposits while insolvent, and that there were swindling operations, and will make investigation.

MAKE NEW YORK PAY.

Senator Heyburn Makes Vigorous Appeal to Roosevelt.

Washington, Nov. 8.—Senator Heyburn called on the President yesterday to protest against further deposits of government money with New York banks until those institutions consent to pay reserves of Western banks in cash instead of cashier's checks. The president requested the senator to present his views in writing, which he did as follows:

"On behalf of the people of the Western states, and especially those of the Northwestern states, I would urge that no further deposits of money from the treasury of the United States be made in New York banks except on the condition that such banks shall immediately make available in money to the banks in such Western states the full amount of the reserves held by such New York banks on account of such Western banks.

"The tying up of many millions of dollars of Western money representing the reserves of the Western banks held by New York banks must inevitably result in empowering the New York banks to determine the time and conditions of free resumption of banking functions by the Western banks, whereas, if the reserves of the Western banks could be converted into available money at once, the financial situation of the West would be free from domination on the part of the East.

MAY CALL EXTRA SESSION.

Gillett to Consult Bankers—Gold is Circulated in San Francisco.

San Francisco, Nov. 8.—At a conference with members of the clearing house and leading business men today Governor Gillett will be urged to call an extra session of the legislature to take some action regarding the present financial situation, in view of the fact that taxes become delinquent November 30.

Local banks are much more optimistic over the situation today, and the fact that business does not appear to be seriously disturbed by the use of the clearing house scrip is giving them much encouragement. The new paper money is being accepted everywhere without question and business is going ahead as usual.

From the subtreasury here \$945,000 went out in gold yesterday. Interior cities got some of this coin, and the balance went into the banks here. More will be paid out today.

Army Moving on Utes.

Omaha, Nov. 8.—Colonel Frank West and eight troops of the Second United States cavalry from Fort Des Moines were today ferried across the Missouri river at Forest city, opposite the Cheyenne agency in South Dakota, after reaching Gettysburg last night and marching 18 miles across the country. The command will continue the march tomorrow for Thunder Bates, 80 miles further west. It now appears to the army men that the campaign against the Utes may keep the soldiers busy all winter.

German Warship Blown Up.

Kiel, Nov. 8.—The boilers of the German school ship Bleucher exploded this morning while the vessel was near Murwick. The vessel has recently been used as a receiving ship. At a late hour tonight 10 bodies had been found on board the ship and a roll call of the crew showed that not other men were missing. Several of the wounded men are not expected to recover. Three hundred of the crew were absent man-euvering.

Reclamation of Zuydersee.

The Hague, Nov. 8.—The government has presented to parliament a bill for the reclamation of a portion of the Zuydersee at a cost of \$11,200,000. The work will occupy seven years and will yield about 40,000 acres of fertile land.



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