

BILL WILL CARRY

RIVER AND HARBOR APPROPRIATION SAFE IN THE HOUSE.

Amounts, However, Will Be Small—Work Now Under Way Will Get the Bulk of It—New Projects Are Doomed—Columbia River and Oregon Coast Will Be Recognized.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The fact that the river and harbor committee of the house today held a preliminary meeting and decided to enter upon a series of hearings of representatives from the leading states of the United States that are in need of further appropriations for their harbors and waterways, is taken to indicate that a river and harbor bill will be passed at the present session. The opinion generally prevails, however, that such a bill to secure approval of the house leaders, must make a comparatively small appropriation, and provide principally for continuing work previously begun, which would include all Columbia river improvements not taken care of in the sundry civil bill, as well as the more important work along the Oregon coast that are now in course of construction.

Improving Upper Columbia.
Washington, Dec. 16.—Representative Cushman today introduced a bill directing the secretary of war to locate, survey and begin the construction of a wagon road over the most direct route from Valdes to Eagle City, Alaska. He also introduced bills authorizing surveys of several rivers and harbors, with a view to their further improvement, as follows: Upper Columbia, between Wenatchee and Kettle Falls, Chehalis river, between Aberdeen and Montesano, Everett harbor, Bellingham bay and South Bend harbors.

EXTENDING THE CAREY ACT.
Warren introduces a bill to make it operative ten years longer.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The Carey act, under which Oregon and several other Western states have undertaken the irrigation of lands under contract, expires by limitation on August 18, 1904, and after that date no new contracts can be made, although in cases where lands are segregated prior to that date contracts covering such lands remain in full force. In compliance with a memorial of the Wyoming state legislature, Senator Warren today introduced a bill extending the provisions of the Carey act until August 18, 1914.

Senator Warren also introduced a bill giving water companies and railroads right of ways for constructing and maintaining reservoirs and pipe lines across the public domain where water conveyed by such lines is to be used for railroad, public and domestic purposes. The bill gives constructors of such pipe lines right of way of timber from public lands adjacent to the right of way.

PAY OF 150,000 CUT.
Steel Trust Orders a General Reduction of Wages.

New York, Dec. 16.—The statement was made today by a leading official of the United States steel corporation that, beginning January 1, 1904, about 90 per cent of the employees of the corporation will suffer wage reductions ranging from 5 to 20 per cent. This reduction will affect about 150,000 workmen in the various grades of the subsidiary companies. The remaining 10 per cent of the employees are members of the Amalgamated association of iron, steel and tinworkers, whose wage schedule runs to July 1, 1904. The finance committee of the steel corporation has, it is understood, under consideration the dismissal of many high salaried employees, in addition to those already discharged, but no statement on this point was forthcoming today. It was ascertained that, barring some unforeseen technicalities, employees of the corporation who participated in the profit sharing plan will, in the coming month, receive a \$5 dividend.

Strikes Blow at Unionism.
Chicago, Dec. 16.—The invasion of the municipal service by labor unions was today ordered brought to a halt by Mayor Harrison. "In the mechanical branches of the city's service," said the mayor, "where the employe is simply a workman, it is all right for him to belong to a union, but where the man belongs to a department, like the firemen or the policemen, he has no right to have a divided allegiance. He must owe all allegiance to only one master—the city of Chicago."

Want Panama to Share Debt.
London, Dec. 16.—The correspondent of the Morning Leader at The Hague says it is reported there that both Holland and Great Britain insist that the republic of Panama shall assume liability for \$15,000,000 of the Colombian debt.

AIMED AT GUESSING CONTESTS.

Penrose Would Also Amend Postal Law to Reach Get-Rich-Quick Men.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Two bills have been introduced in the senate by Senator Penrose, designed to strengthen the laws regulating the use of mails. One is aimed at the "get-rich-quick" concerns and guessing contests, and includes the District of Columbia and "all territory within the jurisdiction of the United States" in the law forbidding the use of mails for the transmission of lottery tickets. The bills were drawn in the law division of the post-office department. The act of 1890 forbidding lotteries is amended by inserting the following language in the prohibitory section:

"Or any person, or company, conducting any competition or contest involving the award of prizes, and based upon the relative accuracy of guesses or estimates; or conducting any schemes or device for betting, wagering or making pools upon horse races or other similar contests."

This amendment is held to be necessary by reason of the attorney general holding that contests which involve the award of prizes obtained upon the relative accuracy of guesses or estimates, as to the number of votes in a political election or the number of beans that a certain jar contains, etc., are not in violation of the present lottery laws.

It is sought by the amendment also to protect the public against fraud, as well as to suppress gambling which accompanies betting on horses. Betting on horse races has been held not to be within the purview of the lottery laws. Consequently it is held that the only way by which these turf investment schemes can be suppressed under existing laws is upon the ground of fraud, in which case it is extremely difficult to obtain sufficient evidence to warrant an action. Such evidence cannot be obtained in any event until after the scheme has been in operation some time, and after the company has in its possession thousands of dollars of the people's money.

PROPOSES AN INCOME TAX.
Williams Also Wants Over-Issue of Stocks Prevented.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Representative Williams, of Mississippi, has introduced a concurrent resolution in the house proposing an amendment to the constitution to give congress power to collect taxes on incomes, and providing that such tax shall not be construed to be a direct tax within the meaning of the constitution. Mr. Williams also introduced the following bills:

To put on the free list, when coming from countries which permit identical products of ours to enter free, hides of all animals, leather of all sorts, boots, shoes, saddles and harness.

To prevent individuals or corporations engaged in interstate commerce from making it a condition of sale of their products that the purchaser shall not sell or deal in products of any other persons, firms or corporations.

To prevent the over issue of stock by corporations or combinations of corporations and defining such over issues as "public cheating."

Requiring the payment of interest on public funds deposited with banks.

WILL TAKE PART OF THE DEBT.
Panama Will Propose Three Millions of Canal Money Be Used.

Washington, Dec. 17.—The statement from London that England, Holland and Germany had decided to insist that the new republic of Panama must assume a part of Columbia's foreign debt, brought an interesting report here today. It is understood that the purpose of Minister Bona-Varrilla's recent visits to the state department have been to make an agreement on this very point. It is said that he has prepared, and will probably sign, in a few days, an agreement by which the Panama republic binds itself to Columbia, for application on her foreign debt, one-third of the \$10,000,000 which the United States is to pay Panama. Such an agreement would be very satisfactory to the United States government, which is inclined to believe Panama, as a matter of equity, at least, should assume a portion of Columbia's debt.

Montana Timber Stolen.
Butte, Dec. 17.—Certain members of the Mormon colony in the Big Horn Basin, Wyo., just across the Montana border from Red Lodge, are charged with wholesale thefts of timber from the public domain in Montana, according to a communication addressed to United States District Attorney Carl Rasch last night by the county commissioners of Carbon county, Montana. The Mormons are accused of devastating heavy forests in Pryor mountain and having sawmills in the midst of the timber on government land.

Canal Treaty in New York.
New York, Dec. 17.—The steamer City of Washington arrived today from Colon, bringing the signed copy of the canal treaty with the republic of Panama. The treaty was in a metal box in charge of the purser, who turned it over to a representative of the government on arrival at the dock. There was no news of importance reported by the officers and passengers.

HAPPENINGS HERE IN OREGON

ENGLISH PARTRIDGES THRIVE.

Covey Turned Loose in Linn County Has Multiplied.

Albany.—A number of inquiries as to the success experienced with the English partridges which were turned loose in Linn county have been received in Albany. These queries came largely from prominent Portland sportsmen, who were instrumental in securing the valuable addition to Oregon's stock of game birds. Edwin Stone, who secured the covey of birds that were turned into Linn county fields, and who has kept an eye on the birds since they were freed, said today that he had heard from the English partridges recently, and they seemed to be thriving.

Twenty-four of the birds were turned loose in Linn county by Mr. Stone in January, 1901. The partridges were secured by popular subscription. When released, the birds immediately flew away in divers directions, but soon began whistling to each other, and in a short time they were gathered into a covey. They were turned loose on the Lines place, at the base of Knox butte, about four miles from Albany. Wheat was placed in the field for them, but they did not remain to partake of the hospitality of their liberators. They soon took to the butte, to orchards, small groves, etc.

Since that time a number of English game birds have been seen about the butte and in the surrounding fields, and always are seen in coveys. A complaint has been registered that some one was following the birds with a gun last fall, and killed a number of them. Several coveys of the birds, ranging from ten to sixteen in number, have been seen this fall, and any number of them have been heard whistling in the fields around the butte.

COAL IN GRANT COUNTY.
Expert Says There is Every Indication of Good Quality.

John Day.—County Surveyor C. G. Caspary has returned from the newly discovered coal region below Mount Vernon. He stated that he had just completed the survey of 22 claims that have been taken up by local investors, chiefly Canyon City promoters. The claims are located under the United States laws governing coal land entries, and aggregate 1320 acres. They are situated north of the river, and a few miles below the original discovery near the farm of James Small.

Mr. Caspary, in speaking of the probabilities of success in opening up large bodies of coal said: "You may say for me that there is every indication of good coal in large bodies in the newly discovered fields, and there will most certainly be great coal mines opened up. I have had a great deal of experience in the coal fields of Pennsylvania and the middle west, and have made a careful study of the conditions, formation and indications of coal deposits, and I am sure they are there, that is in that section."

Robert Hines, one of the most successful metal-mining men of the district, has taken charge of development work on these new claims. He has a crew of men at work sinking and tunneling.

This makes the third enterprise undertaken in the last few months. The first to begin prospecting on a large scale was the Sumpter Valley railway people on the James Small place. The P. A. Snyder company then began development work near this place, 20 miles above the original location of the Sumpter people and Boise people.

Shipment of Beef Cattle.
Pendleton.—Three carloads of beef cattle were shipped to Seattle from this point last week. On Saturday afternoon two were shipped, thus making a shipment of about 200 head. The cattle shipments at the present time are about the same as they were last year at this time. During the early part of the fall, however, they were heavier than they were last year. The sales of the season are not as great of last year. Buyers note lower prices than last season, and the growers are determined to hold against the markets.

Coming Events.
Traveling Passenger Agents' annual meeting, Portland, December 26.
Northwest Fruitgrowers' association, Portland, January 11-13.
National Livestock convention, Portland, January 12-15.
National Wool growers' association, Portland, January 12-15.
Poultry show, Albany, January 12-15.
Anogra Goat show, Dalles, January 14-15.

Sales of Swamp Lands.
Salem.—As a result of a recent contest over swamp land in Southern Oregon, east of the Cascades, in which contest there was much evidence of keen rivalry over the right to purchase, the state land board has adopted a new rule, ordering that hereafter all sales of unsurveyed swamp land be made to the highest bidder. Sales will be made after 90 days' advertisement.

SHOULD FORM DISTRICT.

Importance of a Corporation is Urged at Freewater.

Freewater.—A. D. Stillman, a prominent attorney of Pendleton, delivered an address on the irrigation question of this district before a large attendance of fruitgrowers of this district. The meeting was held in the schoolhouse north of here. His principal object was to show why government irrigation districts should be formed.

An election on this question will be held December 21. A deep interest is taken. Mr. Stillman said in part:

"An irrigation district, organized under the statute, is nothing more nor less than a municipal or public corporation. The irrigation district as a municipal corporation is of such recent origin that it is not generally understood, and it is probably for this reason that the inhabitants of a proposed district hesitate to assume the powers and obligations of an irrigation district."

"The irrigation district is provided for by the general laws of the state of Oregon, act of 1895, which provides that the inhabitants of any given or limited area that is irrigated from a common source may form an irrigation district and assume the powers usually exercised by a municipal or public corporation."

NEW LIGHTS AT CAPITOL.
Incandescents Take the Place of the Old Arc Lamps.

Salem.—Electricians have finished installing a complete equipment of incandescent lamps in the rotunda of the capitol, to take the place of three arc lights that have been used heretofore. The arc lamps hung in the center of the rotunda, on each of the three floors. The incandescent lamps are arranged around the edge of the large circular openings in the second and third floors.

There are 30 lamps in each of these circles. Around the base of the interior of the ornamental dome a circle of 60 lamps has been placed in such a position that the light will be thrown upon the ornamental surface. At the top of the interior dome is a circular opening about 20 feet in diameter, covered with ornamental colored glass.

Above this has been arranged a group of 30 incandescent lamps. When all these lamps are lighted at night the rotunda of the capitol will be a place of rare beauty.

Creamery Talk at La Grande.

La Grande.—There is a move on here to bring about the establishment of a creamery. George Goodhue, of Salem, and Mr. Harper, of the Union creamery, are looking over the country with a view to getting the ranchers interested. The matter has been brought before the Commercial club, but no action has been taken. Mr. Goodhue and Mr. Harper have also been looking over the field around Pendleton, and they are desirous of establishing a plant there, which they say is an excellent country for such a plant.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 71@72c; blue-stem, 77c; valley, 78c.
Barley—Feed, \$20 per ton; brewing, \$20@20.50; rolled, \$21.
Flour—Valley, \$37.5@38.5 per barrel; hard wheat straights, \$3.90@4.10; clears, \$3.55@3.75; hard wheat patents, \$4.20@4.50; graham, \$3.75; whole wheat, \$4; rye flour, \$4.50@4.75.
Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.10; gray, \$1.07 1/2 per cental.
Millstuffs—Bran, \$18 per ton; middlings, \$23; shorts, \$19; chop, \$18; linseed, dairy food, \$19.
Hay—Timothy, \$16 per ton; clover, \$12; grain, \$12; cheat, \$12.
Vegetables—Turnips, 60c per sack; carrots, 75c; beets, 90c; parsnips, 75c@90c; cabbage, 16@17c; tomatoes, \$1@1.25 per crate; cauliflower, 75c@81c per dozen; celery, 40@90c per dozen; pumpkins, 1c per pound; onions, Yellow Danvers, 50c@51c per sack.
Honey—\$3@3.50 per case.
Potatoes—Oregon, choice and fancy, 65@75c per sack; common, 50c per sack; growers' prices; sweet potatoes, sacks, 2c; boxes, 2 1/2c.
Fruits—Apples, 75c@82c per box; pears, \$1@1.50 per box; cranberries, \$6@10 per barrel.
Butter—Fancy Oregon creamery, 30c per pound; dairy, 20@22 1/2c; store, 15@15 1/2c.
Cheese—Full cream, twins, 14@15c; Young America, 15@16c.
Poultry—Chickens, mixed, 10@10 1/2c per pound; spring, 11c; hens, 11@12c; turkeys, live, 13c; dressed, 15c; ducks, \$6@7 per dozen; geese, 8c per pound.
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 37 1/2c; Eastern, 27@30c.
Hops—Choice, 22 1/2c per pound; prime, 20c; medium, 17c; common 15c.
Wool—Valley, 17@18c; Eastern Oregon, 12@15c; mohair, 32@35c.
Beef—Dressed, 5@6 1/2c per pound.
Veal—Dressed, small, 8@8 1/2c; large, 5@6c per pound.
Pork—Dressed, 6@6 1/2c.

ROASTS IN WRECK.

Iowa Passenger Train is Derailed on a High Bridge.

Ottumwa, Ia., Dec. 16.—Five persons were killed and 10 injured in a wreck this morning on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy road, three miles west of Albia, Ia. The westbound passenger train was in some manner derailed while running onto the Cedar creek bridge, and five cars were wrecked by collision with the steel girders of the bridge.

The wreckage immediately took fire, and several victims were badly burned. Mildred Mitchen, the little 3 year-old child of Mrs. W. E. Mitchen, was hung to one of the bridge girders and burned to death before the eyes of the uninjured passengers and trainmen.

When the train was derailed just before reaching the bridge, the sides of the cars struck the bridge and were torn out. The live coals from the stove were scattered throughout the cars. The Mitchen child fell through the bottom of the car, its clothing catching to the girder, when it cried loudly for its mother, who had been instantly killed in the wreck. The cars and the bridge were in a few seconds a mass of flames and the child was burned to a crisp before aid could reach it.

Just what caused the accident is a mystery. As soon as the engineer noticed there was something wrong, he applied the air brakes, but was unable to stop the train. Five cars were completely burned, and the remainder of the coaches badly damaged.

The work of rescue was carried on with difficulty, as the cars took fire immediately after the accident, and the bridge is a high one. The injured were taken to Albia and Ottumwa.

BITTER COLD IN CHICAGO.

Firemen Cannot Get Through Snow—Switchman Frozen to Death.

Chicago, Dec. 16.—This was the coldest day in Chicago for this season of the year since 1876. Early this morning the temperature began to fall, until at 8 A. M. it had reached 13 below zero. The only time that this mark has been reached in the history of the weather bureau was December 9, 1876, when 14 below was registered. During the day it began to moderate and tonight it is hovering around the zero mark, and the indications for tomorrow are for warmer weather, with snow storms.

On account of the cold and heavy condition of the streets owing to the heavy fall of snow yesterday the three story department store of Rodzinski & Co., in West Twenty-second street, was destroyed by fire today. A special call for engines was sent in, but before they could reach the scene of the fire through the drifts of snow, the building had been burned, causing a loss of \$55,000.

So far but one death, that of William Duffy, a switchman, who was found frozen to death in the Chicago & Northwestern yards, has been reported.

AID TO EFFICIENCY.

The British Remount System Pleases General Carter.

London, Dec. 16.—General William H. Carter, of the United States army, who has been investigating the remount system of the British army, with a view to reporting to the general staff of the United States army, had a farewell interview with H. O. Arnold-Foster, British secretary of war, yesterday. He will leave England tomorrow for the Transvaal.

Every facility has been afforded General Carter here and he expresses his appreciation of the friendly spirit of the war officials, and especially of the remount bureau, which arranged for his investigations. At Aldershot a squadron of the celebrated Fourteenth Hussars and a battery of the horse artillery were paraded before General Carter, who highly praised these organizations and particularly the quality of their horses.

The general thinks the excellence of the British cavalry and horse artillery is due to the system of supplying remounts and to the efficiency of the corps of riding masters.

General Carter visited Woolwich and Sandhurst. He does not think these establishments compare very favorably with the military academy at West Point, but he says the results obtained are more satisfactory.

Engine Pulls Down Train.

Madrid, Dec. 16.—While running at top speed today the express train from Malaga for this city jumped the track near Cahra, and 12 persons were instantly killed, while 20 others were seriously injured. The accident took place while the train was crossing a bridge spanning a ravine, and the locomotive was the first to leave the rails. It pulled the rest of the train after it, the whole piling up, a mass of wreckage 50 feet below. All of the earriages were reduced to kindling wood and that any escaped is miraculous.

Britain Would Buy Ships.

London, Dec. 16.—It is reported that the British admiralty has made an offer to the Argentine Republic to buy the two cruisers Rivadavia and Morona, now being built at Genoa for that government.