

## INDICT F. P. MAYS

### Federal Grand Jury Charges Him With Fraud.

#### HELD TO BELONG TO LAND RING

McKinley, Puter, Ware and Others Indicted with Him—State Senator Denies Any Guilt.

Portland, Dec. 23.—The grand jury of the United States has said that Franklin Pierce Mays, state senator and attorney, of Portland, is guilty of conspiracy to defraud the government out of a portion of its public lands situated in township 24 south, range 1 east, and has linked with him as fellow-conspirators the names of Horace G. McKinley, S. A. D. Puter, Marie L. Ware, Emma L. Watson, D. W. Tarpley, Robert Simpson, John Doe and Robert Roe.

Judge Bellinger, at the request of Deputy District Attorney Heney, fixed the bond of Mr. Mays at \$4,000, the same in amount as has been asked of the other defendants. The bonds in the previous cases were allowed to stand against the new indictment in the case of the rest of the defendants.

Mr. Mays is very indignant at the unfair treatment which, he says, has been shown him by the government attorneys. He asked that he be allowed to go before the jury, declaring that he would be able to explain any testimony brought against him, and to show that he was not criminally connected with the Puter-Watson ring, but that he had aroused their displeasure and was being forced to pay for it. He will maintain his innocence in the courtroom and is confident that he will be able to show that there was a mistake made in his case when the indictment was returned against him.

#### DOINGS IN CONGRESS.

Friday, December 16.

The senate by a vote of 44 to 23 passed the Philippine government bill. As passed it exempts from taxation all bonds issued by the Philippine and Porto Rico governments; authorizes municipalities to incur a bonded indebtedness amounting to 5 per cent of the assessed valuation of their property; authorizes the Philippine government to incur a bonded indebtedness of \$5,000,000; establishes a system for the location and patenting of mineral, coal and saline lands, and gives the civil governor the title of governor general.

The greater part of the day was put in discussing and voting on amendments on the Philippine bill.

At 5:05 p. m. the senate adjourned until Monday.

Today's session of the house was given over almost exclusively to consideration of the bills on the private calendar, a dozen or more being passed.

The senate amendments to the urgent deficiency bill were agreed to.

A resolution was adopted providing that the exercises appropriate to the reception and acceptance from the state of Kansas of the statue of the late John J. Ingalls, erected in Statuary hall, of the capitol, be made a special order for January 21.

The house adjourned until Monday.

Monday, December 19.

No business of importance was transacted in either house today, the entire time they were in session being taken up by discussion of minor measures. Many senators and representatives were absent. Adjournment was taken until Wednesday.

Wednesday, December 21.

After a session of four minutes duration the senate adjourned today until January 4 next. The proceedings consisted of a prayer by the chaplain, the reading of the journal of Monday's brief session and the receipt of a number of nominations from the president.

In the house a bill was introduced to "secure the full use of the United States rural mail equipment and to place the rural service on a paying basis." Two bills were introduced providing for a place to care for lepers. The house then adjourned until January 4.

Squeezing the Poor Chinese.

London, Dec. 23.—The correspondent at Peking of the Times, telegraphs as follows: "China having consented to pay the indemnity (growing out of the Boxer troubles) in gold, the ministers of Russia, Germany and France are now disputing among themselves as to what fresh terms they can extort from the Chinese and seeking to force an arrangement whereby certain banks will make further profit out of the indemnity. Great Britain supports China, who counts upon America and Japan to secure a just settlement."

#### BLUFF IS CALLED.

England Can Have War Quickly, Says Kaiser Wilhelm.

Berlin, Dec. 24.—Sensational correspondence has passed between the German and British governments during the last four weeks with reference to the warlike and provocative attitude adopted toward Germany by the semi-official British press, especially the Army and Navy Gazette. The Kaiser took a hand in the negotiations and made his vigorous personality felt in a positive way. He instructed that the British cabinet should be informed in effect that if England wanted war it could have it immediately, if it was not desirous of such an event the talk which Germany considered an affront must stop.

Both Count Wolff-Metternich, German ambassador in London, and Sir F. C. Lascelles, British ambassador at Berlin, were called home by their respective governments to discuss the situation.

The publications which induced the German government to assume its strong attitude were a series of articles in the Army and Navy Gazette, culminating in the declaration that the Kaiser's navy was so rapidly becoming a menace to Great Britain that war would better be declared now in order that the German fleet might be destroyed before it should become a still greater danger.

Both Premier Balfour and Lord Lansdowne have been told that Germany is impatient of this distrust of its naval policy, which it accuses the National Review, the Army and Navy Gazette and other papers of generating among the British people. The Fatherland wishes Britain to understand once for all that it has not the slightest intention of abandoning the development of its navy and its merchant marine at British behest, no matter how much of a bogey they constitute.

#### LONDON IN A BLACK FOG.

Traffic Almost at Standstill Throughout the Metropolis.

London, Dec. 24.—London was enveloped today in a black fog, more dense than anything witnessed during the last two years. In many places the traffic was almost completely stopped, and the greatest care was necessary to avoid accidents, a number of which have already been reported.

As night closed down and the density increased, vehicle traffic in the most crowded sections of the center of London was completely suspended. Some of the scenes witnessed were pitiful, some were ridiculous, and the whole was extremely weird. There were instances in which women became hysterical, and even the police lost their sense of direction, and omnibus drivers became confused and drove on the sidewalks, until finally all traffic was held up.

At the main crossings and on the streets leading thereto, long shadowy lines of omnibuses, cabs and wagons loaded with Christmas packages stood motionless. The most brilliant electric lights only served to make the darkness visible. Torchboys were very busy.

#### BRITISH DOCKING CHEAPER.

Attention of President Called to Conditions at Bremerton.

Washington, Dec. 24.—President Roosevelt's attention was invited today by Representative Humphrey, of Washington, to a telegram received by Mr. Humphrey from some of his constituents, protesting against what is declared to be exorbitant tonnage rates charged at the Bremerton naval station for the docking and repair of vessels. The telegram calls attention to a charge of 10 cents a ton for the docking of the steamer Shawmut, the owners declaring that they could have the work done at the British dock at Esquimaux for 3 cents a ton. The charges at the American station result, Mr. Humphrey says, in a large amount of such work going to the British station, to the detriment of the Americans. This matter will be considered by the officials of the Navy department.

#### Examination of the Nigretta.

Tokio, Dec. 24.—The examination of the cargo, passengers and crew of the British steamer Nigretta, which was seized by the Japanese cruiser Teshima in progressing at Sasebo. Seemingly it is undetermined whether parole-breaking Russian officers are on board the Nigretta. The Japanese are investigating this feature of the case because of the question of the ability of the Chinese officials properly to conduct the internment of Russians who seek refuge at ports in China. It is considered vitally important.

#### Philippine Tariff Bill Ready.

Washington, Dec. 24.—Secretary Taft and Colonel Edwards, chief of the insular bureau of the War department, today practically completed the work of putting the proposed revision of the Philippine tariff in shape for presentation to congress in the form of a prepared draft of a bill.

## FORT IS BLOWN UP

### Japanese Troops Swarm In Over the Ruins.

#### MEET WITH FIERCE RESISTANCE

Russians Leave About Fifty Dead on the Field and the Assaultants' Casualties Are Light.

Tokio, Dec. 21.—The Japanese fired an immense mine under the north of Fort Kekwan mountain at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon. The Japanese immediately charged and occupied the fort with a heavy force.

The following report of the capture was telegraphed from General Nogi's headquarters today:

"At 2:15 o'clock on the afternoon of December 18, part of our army blew up the parapets of the North fort of East Kekwan mountain, and then charged.

"A fierce battle with hand grenades then ensued.

"Owing to the stubborn resistance of the enemy with his machine guns, our operations were temporarily suspended.

"Subsequently at 7 o'clock in the evening, General Sanejima, commanding the supports, advanced into the casemats and, encouraging his men, threw his supports into the fighting line in a last brave charge.

"At 11:50 o'clock at night we completely occupied the fort and immediately engaged in the construction of defensive works. Our occupation became firmly assured today.

"Before retiring the enemy exploded four mines in the neighborhood of the neck of the fort.

"We captured five nine-centimeter field and two machine guns as well as plenty of ammunition.

"The enemy left 40 or 50 dead. Our casualties have not been investigated, but they are not heavy."

#### CARE OF FOREST RESERVE.

Bill to Put Pinchot in Complete Control Strikes a Snag.

Washington, Dec. 21.—The bill passed by the house, authorizing the transfer of the administration of forest reserves from the Interior department to the department of Agriculture, has run upon a snag in the senate committee on public lands, the same snag that held up a similar bill in the last session. This bill, if it becomes a law, means that Gifford Pinchot, chief of the Forestry bureau, will have practically absolute control over forest reserves, and absolute say in the creation of new reserves. While it is proposed to place the control nominally in the secretary of Agriculture, everyone knows that Secretary Wilson will take no active hand in the forest management, but will approve everything Mr. Pinchot recommends.

That is the principal reason the senate committee is in no hurry to approve the pending bill, notwithstanding the fact that its passage is urged by the president, Secretary Hitchcock, Secretary Wilson, Land Commissioner Richards and Chief Forester Pinchot.

#### CRUSHED IN BEDS.

Wall Falls on Crocker Hotel at Minneapolis and Ruins Burn.

Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 21.—Four or five, and possibly 10 or 11, people lost their lives early today in the Crocker hotel, on Fifth street, through the falling of the highest wall of the G. H. Peck building, which was damaged by fire last week.

The high wind of last night loosened the bricks in the wall, and tons of brick and stones crashed down upon the roof of the three story hotel next door. The roof was carried through to the basement, carrying death and injury before it.

The crash came when almost every one in the hotel was asleep. Within one moment the entire building was a wreck, with injured and dying people calling for help.

#### Shanghai Natives Much Aroused.

Shanghai, Dec. 21.—The Chinaman murdered by a sailor from the Russian cruiser Askold, December 15, as the result of a dispute over payment for the hire of a jinrikisha, was a native of Ningpo, (an important treaty port 500 miles south of Shanghai) and the affair has caused indignation among the Ningpo community here, which is 50,000 strong. The lower classes are urging an attack on all Russians in Shanghai, but they are restrained by the Ningpo guild, which is counseling patience.

#### Ready for Baltic Fleet.

Shanghai, Dec. 21.—Reliable reports from the south state that the Japanese are forwarding men, guns, torpedo boats and submarines to Fromosa and the Pescadores, in order to be ready to attack the Baltic fleet at its rendezvous.

#### MOROS AT PEACE.

Slave Trade in Philippines Put Down by General Wood.

Washington, Dec. 22.—General Wood, commanding the department of Mindanao, Philippine division, in his annual report to the War department, said that the troops of the department have been in the field a greater portion of the year, quelling armed uprisings and preventing slave trade and kindred abuses. He says that in almost every instance actual fighting was initiated by the Moros.

"Conditions among the Moros throughout the department are generally peaceful," says General Wood, who adds:

"The establishment of civil government and the extension over them of certain laws and regulations has caused some excitement and at times serious resistance, especially the law prohibiting slavery. In some sections active hostility has been engendered by our presence, especially in the Lake Lanao region, where almost constant murderous attacks on workmen and soldiers were the rule until the effects of the recent expeditions to the Tarea side of the lake, combined with expeditions to other sections of the Lanao, were felt by the Moros."

The power of the Moros of that section, he says, has been completely broken. Continuing, the report says:

"In Jolo affairs are quiet. The prompt crushing of the Hassaus uprising has made a deep impression on the people, and the abrogation of the Bates agreement has done much to bring to an end the unfortunate conditions which existed under it."

Dato Abis' party, the report adds, is the only band of Moros now openly hostile, and it is small and is being followed by troops and scouts. General Wood says it is believed there will not be any very serious resistance of authority by the Moros in the future, but there will be constant police work.

#### FAVOR MUNICIPAL CONTROL.

New York Citizens' Union Committee Adopts Resolutions.

Shanghai, Dec. 22.—A report has reached here that the captain of the Russian torpedo boat destroyer Grozov, which was dismantled at Shanghai, August 26, last, has been discovered on board the British steamer Nigretta, which was seized by the Japanese protected cruiser Teshima off Ulsan, Corea. Charts and documents which would have been of incalculable value to the Russians are said to have been found on the captain's person.

The report, which is generally credited here, somewhat conflicts with that contained in an earlier dispatch, in which it was stated that Captain Reitzstein, of the cruiser Askold, also disarmed in August at Shanghai, was the officer who had attempted to reach Vladivostok on the Nigretta. In either case it is believed the Japanese will hold the Chinese authorities strictly responsible for the escape of the officer from Shanghai.

Great Britain is also likely to be required to clear herself in the matter unless the rumor circulated here is correct that the captain disguised himself as a French officer and in that manner secured passage on the Nigretta.

#### CAPTURED AT SEA.

Russian Officer was Carrying Valuable Papers to Vladivostok.

New York, Dec. 22.—The city committee of the Citizens' union has adopted resolutions favoring an extension of municipal control of public utilities, a municipal lighting plant, purchase of electrical conduits and the grant of power by the legislature to the city to build and operate lighting plants, gas and electric.

The committee adopted the report of the committee on franchises, which favors presenting to the legislature the constitutional amendment proposed by the "Tilden commission" of 1875, which was that the legislature shall have no power to pass any law "for the opening, making, paving, lighting or otherwise improving or maintaining streets, avenues, parks or places, docks, wharves, or for any other local work or improvements in or for such purposes shall be, by law, conferred on the city government."

#### Potatoes for the Starving.

Greeley, Colo., Dec. 22.—Mayor H. C. Watson issued a call today for a mass meeting Saturday next to consider a proposition to donate a large quantity of potatoes to the starving poor of Ireland. Similar meetings will be held at Fort Collins. It is believed the farmers of northern Colorado will contribute several hundred carloads of potatoes if the transportation were arranged for. The government will be asked to furnish a transport to carry the potatoes from Galveston to Ireland.

#### To Meet Baltic Fleet.

London, Dec. 22.—The Daily Mail's correspondent at Hong Kong says he has learned on trustworthy authority that a powerful Japanese squadron of battleships and armored cruisers is proceeding south, accompanied by 15 colliers and transports, to attack the Russian Baltic squadron.

## BIG EXHIBIT AT FAIR

### Missouri Will Make a Fine State Display at Portland.

#### WILL MEAN OUTLAY OF \$300,000

Special Commissioner Is Now Actively At Work—Nation Boxing Exhibits—Nebraska's Part.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 19.—"Missouri is to be splendidly represented at the Lewis and Clark exposition at Portland," states M. T. Davis, president of the Missouri State World's Fair commission today.

"We will send out there an exhibit that could not be duplicated for \$300,000," he continued.

The displays for the western fair will be selected and prepared for shipment by E. S. Carver, special commissioner from Missouri to the Lewis and Clark exposition. He is now actively at work.

The work of boxing the government exhibits that are to be shipped from the World's fair to Portland for the Lewis and Clark exposition has been commenced, and by January 1 they will be ready to be sent away. They will not be shipped until March 1, however, according to the present plans. Portland is to get about 65 per cent of the government's exhibits. The remainder will be returned to Washington, D. C.

The machinery in the money coining display will be sent as soon as possible to Denver, Colo., where it will be used to enlarge the United States mint. The great ordinance which proved such an attractive exhibit here may be returned to the East. Its disposition has not been definitely decided upon as yet, on account of the possibility of obtaining great rifles and other guns on the Western coast so much closer to Portland.

#### Nebraska to Have Big Exhibit.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 19.—J. B. Dinmore, Nebraska commissioner, and in charge of the livestock exhibit of the St. Louis fair, and ex-president of the state board of agriculture, said today that Nebraska would have a big exhibit at Portland.

#### PROTECT FLOODED VALLEYS

Engineers Have Scheme to Redeem One Million Acres.

Sioux City, Ia., Dec. 19.—A committee of distinguished engineers chosen by California to solve the problem of protecting the valleys of the San Joaquin the Sacramento rivers from regular floods made its report today. If successful their plan will redeem 1,000,000 acres.

The floods were caused primarily by deposits from hydraulic mines filling the channel. The project will cost \$1,000,000 at least. While the report is not made public, it is understood it recommends the construction of dykes to confine the water to the channel, and thereby carry out the debris.

#### MUCH FEELING AGAINST CHILE

Japan Still Fears She Will Sell Her Warships to Russia.

Tokio, Dec. 19.—The Japanese are watching with great interest the alleged plan of the Russian government to purchase warships from the governments of Argentina and Chile. In response to a diplomatic inquiry, the government of Argentina frankly disavowed any intention to sell warships to Russia, but the answer received from Chile is said to be evasive. The correspondence on the subject is still in progress.

There is a growing feeling of resentment here against Chile. Discussing the question with the Associated Press correspondent today, an official said that in the event of Chile selling warships to Russia, Japan will unquestionably take the first opportunity to settle the score.

#### Conservative Reforms for Russia.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 19.—A special council was held this afternoon at Tsarko-Selo, under Emperor Nicholas, at which President of the Ministerial council C. Witte, Minister of the Interior Sviatopolk-Mirsky and Minister of Justice Muraviev discussed the question of reforms. It is understood that the emperor advised with them on the question of a manifesto which will be published today. This document, it is believed, outlines a policy of careful conservative reform.

#### Federal Building for Honolulu.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Senator Perkins introduced a bill today to make an appropriation of \$1,400,000 to acquire a site to construct a Federal building at Honolulu, Hawaii. Representative Cushman, of Washington, introduced the same bill in the house.