

BILL BY TOWNSEND

One of First Subjects in Message by President Roosevelt.

WEAK CASE OF THE RAILROADS

Measure Passed by Last House Was Intended to Correct Error in Former Law.

Washington, Oct. 7.—Representative Townsend, of Michigan, joint author of the Ech-Townsend railroad rate bill that passed the house of representatives last winter, and who will reintroduce substantially the same bill and lead the fight for its passage at the coming session, after a conference with the president today said:

"One of the first subjects, if not the first, which the president will discuss in his annual message will be railroad freight rates."

Mr. Townsend says he will not make any material change in his bill, and it is his understanding that the president approves its general features and would be satisfied if it should become law.

"We had but one idea in framing that bill," said Mr. Townsend, "and that was to correct an omission in the original law for regulation of railroads. According to the law, the commission could not make an order which would remedy an evil condition or any unjust condition that was found to exist. It actually exercised that power for a number of years, but it was finally determined that it did not have the power. It was to give the commission that power that the house of representatives passed its bill last winter. The rest of the bill merely furnished machinery for expediting hearings and for carrying out the essential provisions of the bill, which was to fix a reasonable rate when a rate was found to be unreasonable. No statement that I have seen in opposition to this legislation since congress adjourned has modified my view as to the wisdom of adopting this course."

DEAD IN HUNDREDS.

Typhoon in Philippines Kills by Wholesale and Islands Laid Waste.

Manila, Oct. 7.—Government reports show that the result of the recent storm is very serious. At least 200 natives and 25 Americans and foreigners were killed. It is impossible to identify many of the latter.

The government's police work the past year in the provinces of Cavite, Batangas and the island of Samar, which made possible the largest acreage planted in the history of the islands, has been undone, and it is estimated that the storm has retarded development one year in the hemp provinces. In Albay, Sorsogon, Masbate and Samar fields have been devastated, warehouses destroyed and stocks damaged. Roads are impassable and the transportation facilities are crippled. The loss is incalculable. In Albay and Sorsogon 80 per cent of the buildings, dwellings, schools and warehouses have been destroyed.

The storm, in connection with the severe drought which obtained early in the year, will, it is estimated, decrease the receipts of the islands 40 per cent. The army is a heavy loser at southern posts.

Taft Will Keep Canal Work.

Washington, Oct. 7.—The members of the Isthmian Canal commission will remain under Secretary Taft, who will go to Panama in November to investigate and thoroughly inform himself of the conditions in the canal zone. The decision to keep the control of the canal in the War department instead of transferring it to the State department was reached yesterday in a discussion that followed the cabinet meeting. Mr. Taft will proceed to Panama and return to Washington about the time congress convenes.

Examining Route of Canal.

Colon, Oct. 7.—The members of the advisory board of consulting engineers of the Panama canal, who arrived here yesterday from New York, today went by special train to Mindi, Gatun and Bohio, where examinations will be made of the various sites proposed as suitable for dams. The party will embark on steam launches to study the Chagres and its deviations at the points mentioned, returning this evening down the canal from Gatun to Colon in launches.

Rain Soaks Fraser Valley Wheat.

New Westminster, B. C., Oct. 7.—The late rains of this district have done thousands of dollars of damage to standing grain in the Fraser valley, where thousands of acres of late wheat stood unshocked, but ready for the harvest, when the rain commenced that has continued for the past three weeks. For years the province has not been visited with such damaging weather and the farmers say the wet weather has proven disastrous to all late crops.

Agreed About Philippines.

London, Oct. 7.—The correspondence of the Daily Telegraph quotes the semi-official Kokumin Shimbun to the effect that Secretary Taft's visit to Tokio has resulted in an important understanding as the outcome of Japan's explicit disavowal of any designs on the Philippines.

STEAMER ON ROCKS.

St. Paul a Total Wreck Between San Francisco and Portland.

Eureka, Cal., Oct. 8.—The steamer St. Paul, of the San Francisco & Portland Steamship company, under command of Captain Clem Randall, bound from San Francisco to Portland, went ashore early yesterday morning at Point Gorda, a short distance south of the entrance to this harbor, during a dense fog. She had 75 passengers on board, all of whom were safely transferred to other steamers. The vessel, which was laden with a cargo of general merchandise, will probably be a total loss.

The coast off Point Gorda is feared by all coast seamen. It is rocky and treacherous. The old Humboldt was wrecked there about ten years ago, and was a complete loss. The Oriaba went ashore on the rocks there five years ago, and the Homer was another ship to be caught on the jagged reefs at that place.

When the St. Paul struck she was 15 miles out of her course. The third officer was at the bridge at the time. The steamer struck at 3 o'clock in the morning, during a dense fog. She now lies with her stern to the beach, 150 yards from the shore, and has been abandoned by captain and crew. It is thought that the vessel will be a total loss.

The St. Paul lies in a nest of rocks, bow to the northwest, and with a slight list to seaward, 1 1/2 miles below Point Gorda. Apparently, she is in good condition, the sea having smoothed down considerably since she struck. It is smooth between the wreck and the shore, but rough on the outside.

ISSUE BONDS TO BUILD CANAL.

President's Scheme to Stop Deficit in Treasury.

Washington, Oct. 6.—President Roosevelt has decided upon the main recommendations in his forthcoming message to congress. One will be for creating a separate fund for the construction of the Panama canal, another will call for radical reorganization of the diplomatic and consular service.

It is intended to relieve the United States treasury by placing upon posterity its proper portion of the burden of building the great Isthmian waterway.

It is felt that money for canal construction should come from long-time bonds and not be drawn from the treasury direct.

If congress approves, it will create a separate fund, out of which can be drawn the \$50,000,000 already appropriated and the United States reimbursed to that amount. This will remove the annoyance of a yearly deficit.

TURN OVER CANAL TO ROOT

Taft Discovers He Has Too Many Irons in the Fire.

Washington, Oct. 6.—Secretary Taft will at the first opportunity take up with the president the proposition to transfer the control of the Panama canal from the War department to the State department. It was his intention to discuss the matter with the president at his conference today, but the lack of time prevented his doing so. The question was brought up some time ago, but for various reasons it was postponed to a more favorable occasion.

Since the Spanish-American war, involving the acquisition of the Philippines, the work of the War department has greatly increased and the suggestion that a transfer to the State department of the canal work, with the many perplexing questions which are bound to come up, has been under consideration. Mr. Taft, it is known, is willing that a transfer should be made, basing that disposition on expediency.

Rumors of a Big Haul.

Seattle, Wash., Oct. 6.—The sheriff's office has been informed that Express Messenger Charles Anderson, in the Great Northern car which was dynamited by the bandits, stated to passengers on the train that the thorough safe, which was blown up, contained \$47,500, and that the robbers secured it all. The report that there was that much money is denied by the express company officials. At the same time the officials give the story credence in view of the fact that the largest shipments are on the overland train.

Alaska Posts Have Winter Supplies.

Vancouver Barracks, Wash., Oct. 6.—The chief quartermaster of the department of the Columbia has received notice that all the posts of Alaska have received their entire amount of supplies and are now ready to close traffic for the winter. This is of special importance to the Alaskan posts and also a great burden taken off the quartermaster's department, as the shipping of supplies during the summer months is very brisk.

Can Save Million on Printing.

Washington, Oct. 6.—President Roosevelt had a talk today with Representative Charles B. Landis, of Indiana, on the work of the committee which is to investigate the conditions in the government printing office. Members of the committee are said to believe it easily possible to reduce the expenses of the government printing office at least \$1,000,000 a year.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

LET FOR TWO YEARS.

Oregon's Convict Labor Goes to the Stove Foundry People.

Salem.—An agreement has been reached between Governor Chamberlain and the Loewenberg-Going company for the leasing of convict labor at the penitentiary for a period of two years. The price to be paid for labor is the same that has prevailed in the past, but several changes have been made in the contract in other particulars.

Because there is a popular desire that convicts be employed on the public roads, in which desire Governor Chamberlain joins, and because the last legislature authorized the appointment of a commission to investigate the subject and report to the next legislature, the governor refused to make a contract now for the leasing of convict labor for more than two years. Insistence upon the shorter period made it impossible to secure a higher price than has been paid in the past—3 1/2 cents per hour for each man.

The new contract requires the stove foundry proprietors to employ not less than 150 men a day, whereas the minimum number heretofore has been 100. There are now 390 prisoners in the penitentiary. About 100 of these are employed on the farm, in the stables, in the kitchen, and on other work connected with the management of the institution. This leaves 290 to be otherwise employed. The foundry will now take not less than 150, leaving 140 out of employment. At many times the foundry will employ more than 150, but this number must be paid for, even though not worked.

What to do with the 140 idle men is now the problem. A few of them can be employed on the public roads near Salem under a co-operative arrangement with the county court, and a gang will be put at work grubbing out a piece of state land on the Reform school farm. This will still leave some idle, probably, at many times of the year.

Wasco to Cultivate Hops.

The Dalles—Wasco county will, it is expected, in a few years become the banner hop producing county of the state. This season a number of farmers have been experimenting in hop culture with satisfactory results. The hops they have produced are of an excellent quality and the yield is very large. So successful has been the experiment that a number of farmers are now contemplating putting out large yards next season and engaging in the business of hop raising on an extensive scale. There are thousands of acres in the county suitable for hop fields, as the hops thrive without irrigation and will do well on almost any of the upland that is sheltered from wind.

Quality is Perfect.

Salem—While it is yet too early to make accurate statements of the yield of hops in Marion county this year, estimates by men in the best position to judge are that the total yield will be in the neighborhood of 37,000 bales. The quality will be perfect. In about a week, when the work of baling is farther advanced, a fairly accurate statement of the actual yield can be made and the samples will show the quality. Growers are showing little disposition to sell at present prices, but it is believed that 15 cents a pound would cause rapid selling.

Decision is Withheld.

Pendleton—In the Circuit court arguments were made by the attorneys in the Little Walla Walla irrigation suit that has been brought in this district. The point in controversy was the recent order given by the court making the state a party to the suit and requesting the state engineer to make a hydrographic survey of the land involved. After listening to the arguments of the various attorneys, Judge Ellis announced that his decision would be withheld, and October 21 was set as the date for arguing the demurrers.

Yield and Quality Better.

Oregon City—The curing and baling of the hop crop in this county has nearly progressed sufficiently to warrant an accurate estimate as to the yield. In the aggregate, however, the yield by reason of the increased acreage, will exceed that of last year, the quality will be materially better. With the exception of a few yards, the product will surpass in quantity that of last year, while the quality will be far better than that of 1904.

First Snow Falls in Bourne.

Sumpter—The mountaineers report the first snow of the season. In the highlands surrounding Bourne high falls have occurred in the early mornings. The ground has been covered, but the snow has always disappeared before noon. Old citizens, who take pride in the weather knowledge, say that the very warm and dry summer that has just died will be followed by an unusually severe winter.

Douglas Crop Increased.

Roseburg—This year's hop crop in Douglas county will approximate 800 bales. The quality is good. No sales are reported, as growers expect prices to rise somewhat.

Benton County's Yield.

Corvallis—The estimated yield of hops in this vicinity is 1,410 bales.

FORFEIT TO STATE.

About \$10,000 Paid on School Land Lost to Buyer.

Salem—Certificates of sale for a total of 20,000 acres of state school land have been cancelled in the last few weeks, because of lapse in the payment of installments within the required time. Of this aggregate amount of land, 7,000 acres is in the limits of the proposed Blue mountain forest reserve, and, according to the rulings of the Interior department, the state will be able to use the land as base for the selection of lieu land.

The original purchasers of the land have forfeited the payments made, amounting probably to \$10,000 or more, and the state has the land to sell again. Much of the land outside the reserve will probably not be salable for some time, as the state has raised the price to \$2.50 an acre. The 7,000 acres inside the reserve should find a market as base for lieu land, at \$5 an acre.

A large proportion of the certificates that have been canceled were among those secured by violation of the law governing the purchase of state school land. Prosecution of land fraud cases has scared many of the holders of certificates fraudulently obtained, and they have thought best quietly to drop the whole transaction, forfeit what they have paid and let the state keep the land.

Adopt Early Closing.

Eugene—Forty-seven business men of Eugene who have closed their shops and stores at no regular hour in the evening have signed an agreement to close hereafter each evening except Saturday at 6 o'clock. The list includes hardware stores, gun stores, grocery stores and places in other lines of business, many of which have never closed before 9 o'clock. The dry goods stores have heretofore closed at 6 and most of the grocery stores at 7, but now there will be a uniform hour for closing.

Getting Ready for Primaries.

Salem—Secretary of State Dunbar has begun to make preparations for the general primary elections to be held in this state in April 20. The petitions of all candidates for state and district offices must be filed with the secretary of state by April 1, in order to have a place on the official ballot. It will require at least 60 days for each candidate or his friends to secure the necessary names and prepare the petitions required by law.

Many Students Enrolled.

Corvallis—The attendance in the Oregon Agricultural college promises to cross the 700 mark early in the year, and many believe it will reach 800. Hop fields, fruit harvest and the Lewis and Clark fair have laid claim on many, so that the enrollment has been delayed. During the opening week 527 reported for duty, and the registration is steadily progressing.

Making Beet Sugar.

La Grande—With 125 men at work in the beet sugar factory and fully 400 more at work in the fields, the yield in sugar this season is expected to be about 25,000 tons. Next year it is expected to far exceed this amount. The work of converting the beets into sugar has started.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$24@24.50; gray, \$24@24.50 per ton.
Wheat—Club, 71c per bushel; blue-stem, 74c; valley, 71c@72c.

Barley—Feed, \$20.50@21 per ton; brewing, \$21.50@22; rolled, \$21.50@22.
Rye—\$1.40@1.45 per cental.

Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, \$14@15 per ton; valley timothy, \$11@12; clover, \$8@9; grain hay, \$8@9.

Fruits—Apples, \$1@1.50 per box; peaches, 75c@85c per crate; plums, 50c@75c; cantaloupes, 75c@1.25 per crate; pears, \$1.25@1.50 per box; water-melons, 1/2@1c per pound; crabapples, 1/2 per box; quinces, 1/2 per box.

Vegetables—Beans, 1c@1c per pound; cabbage, 1c@1 1/2c per pound; cauliflower, 75c per dozen; corn, 65c per sack; cucumbers, 10@15c per dozen; pumpkins, 1 1/2@1 3/4c per pound; tomatoes, 35@40c per crate; squash, 5c per pound; turnips, 90c@1.00 per sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@1 per sack.

Onions—Oregon, \$1 per sack; globe, 75c per sack.
Potatoes—Oregon, fancy, 60@75c per sack; common, nominal.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 25@30c.
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 27@27 1/2c.
Poultry—Average old hens, 11 1/2@12c per pound; mixed chickens, 11@11 1/2c; old roosters, 9@9 1/2c; young roosters, 10@11c; springs, 11 1/2@13c; dressed chickens, 14@15c; turkeys, live, 16@17; geese, live, 8@9c; ducks, 13@14c.

Hops—1905, 12@13c; old, 10@12c.
Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 19@21c; lower grades down to 15c, according to shrinkage; valley, 25@27c per pound; mohair, choice, 30c.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 1@2c per pound; cows, 3@4c; country steers, 4@4 1/2c.
Veal—Dressed, 3@7 1/2c per pound.
Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 6 1/2@7c per pound; ordinary, 4@5c; lambs, 7@7 1/2c.

Pork—Dressed, 6@7 1/2c per pound.

FORTY FEET ON BAR.

That and Deeper River Channel Necessary for Port of Portland.

Portland, Oct. 4.—Whatever lies within the power of the business men of Portland will be done to secure from the next session of congress an item in the sundry civil appropriation bill sufficient for completion of the work on the Columbia river bar under the plans that have been submitted by government engineers for completion of the south jetty. At the same time the necessity as a part of the important work for a correspondingly greater depth in the river channel from Portland to the sea will not be lost sight of, and at the same time that phase of the question will come under consideration and action.

Theodore B. Wilcox, who has labored incessantly in behalf of the river and bar improvements, and whose faith has never been shaken that the result desired is within reach, points the necessity for action from this time forward. Talking has been done about what ought to be done, and Mr. Wilcox and some others have been exerting themselves in work to bring about the results that have been talked about, but now it is presented squarely to the people of Portland as a duty for them to perform, if it is desired that the traffic of the Hill railroads to the Orient, islands of the Pacific and ports of the world, carried by the fleets of the Hill steamship companies, and other of the largest ocean carriers.

The Portland commercial bodies have given unqualified support in expressions contained in resolutions in the past, and now, when it is imperative that action be suited to the conviction voiced, they will certainly be found alert and ready for strong personal work of their membership.

ARE AFTER BANDITS.

Poses Close on Heels of Men Who Held Up Great Northern.

Seattle, Wash., Oct. 4.—Sheriffs' posse have traced the three men who held up the Great Northern overland train just outside of Ballard, to the district lying north of Bothell, in which Harry Tracy, the Oregon outlaw, lay hidden 3 1/2 years ago. Along the same route that were guarded in the hunt for Tracy lie deputy sheriffs in wait for the bandits, whom they believe will attempt to enter the town from that direction.

The trail of the fleeing bandits was plain, once the officers caught it, for miles along the county roads. Then it turned toward the city, and it was unmistakable that the men were seeking to re-enter Seattle. The pursuing posse beat the brush half of last night and most of today before the men were called in for a short rest, then hurried into the field again.

Tonight Sheriff Smith went out personally to direct the search west of Green lake. Deputy McKinnon, who had followed the trail all day, with a deputy worked north of the lake.

JURY IN RECORD TIME.

Jones-Potter-Wade Land Fraud Trial Now in Progress.

Portland, Oct. 4.—Willard N. Jones, Thaddeus S. Potter and Ira Wade, charged jointly with having conspired to defraud the government of public land, are now on trial in the Federal court before a jury that was selected with but little difficulty yesterday morning. It is a case that was easy of commencement, though it will be bitterly contested by M. L. Pipes and B. B. Huston, who represent Jones and Potter, and by J. K. Wyatt, of Albany, the attorney for Wade. Yesterday afternoon the testimony of John L. Wells, the first witness for the government was repeatedly interrupted by Mr. Pipes and Mr. Huston, who desired to enter and argue pleas covering the different lines of the testimony about to be offered by the government.

The Jones case is remarkable for one thing, the shortness of the time taken by the attorneys for presenting their cases to the jury. Mr. Heney occupied about 20 minutes in his presentation while Mr. Huston for the defense was even more brief.

Beavers' Trial Coming Soon.

Washington, Oct. 4.—"George W. Beavers, former chief of the salaries and allowance division of the Postoffice department, will be tried at an early date on all the indictments returned against him," said Holmes Conrad, counsel for the government, engaged in the prosecution of the postal fraud cases, yesterday. "The government will press the cases for trial as soon as the condition of the criminal docket admits their being called up. I do not see that anything can stand in the way of an early disposition of the matter."

Last Mail to Nome.

San Francisco, Oct. 4.—Advices from Washington announce the last dispatch of mail for the season via steamers to Nome, Alaska, will be made not later than October 1, 1905. It will not be possible to transmit all mail matter in the form of parcels to Alaska postoffices until the opening of navigation in Alaska next spring, but arrangements with Canada have been perfected whereby mail may be conducted to and from the Yukon district.

May Succeed Sargent.

Washington, Oct. 4.—Rumors are afloat tonight that John Mitchell, president of the United Mineworkers of America, will be appointed commissioner of immigration to succeed Frank P. Sargent. Mr. Mitchell had a conference with President Roosevelt today and afterward talked with Mr. Sargent. When questioned tonight he refused to confirm or deny the story.

FOR NEW ALLIANCES

Britain May Consent to Russia Controlling Turkey.

THREE NATIONS FORM COMBINE

Russia, Germany and France May Unite to Counterbalance Effect of Anglo-Japanese Alliance.

Paris, Oct. 5.—Chancelleries here and throughout Europe are taking the keenest interest in the possible and even probable formation of a new European alliance consequent upon the termination of the war and the conclusion of a closer Anglo-Japanese alliance. This has been advanced beyond discussion in the newspapers and has already reached the stage of discreet diplomatic soundings.

The proposed re-alignment of European powers is divided into three main movements—first, British inclination toward an accord with Russia; second, a German movement for an alliance offsetting the Anglo-Japanese alliance, and third, Russo-German overtures to induce France to join the latter grouping.

Great Britain's desire for a rapprochement with Russia has brought about the distinct diplomatic suggestion that Great Britain is ready to give fuller recognition to Russia's privileged position in Southern Turkey, notably at Constantinople and along the Bosphorus. Russia's ambitions in that direction have heretofore encountered strong opposition in England.

The view in French official quarters is distinctly favorable to an Anglo-Russian rapprochement. It was one of the projects of M. Delcasse when foreign minister, to have King Edward visit Emperor Nicholas as a means of furthering the reconciliation of Russia and Great Britain.

Concerning the proposed German-Russian agreement, strong elements in both countries favor an accord as a counterpoise to the Anglo-Japanese alliance. The Temps tonight prints an authorized interview with Prince von Buelow, the German imperial chancellor, at Baden Baden, openly advocating a German-Russian rapprochement.

BREACH BETWEEN OFFICIALS

Metcalf and Taft Disagree on Rules for Chinese Exclusion.

Washington, Oct. 5.—With the return to the city of the president and his official advisers, the breach between the department of State and the department of Commerce and labor is widening over the question of Chinese exclusion. Secretary Metcalf does not take kindly to Secretary Taft's assertion that the methods of enforcement of regulations by the department of Commerce and Labor are largely responsible for the present embarrassing Chinese boycott. It is understood that he will protest against any action tending to remove the regulation directing American consuls in China to personally inquire into the truth of statements in Chinese certificates by visting them.

The great fight in congress for years has been to reduce to a minimum the fraudulent admission into the United States of Chinese coolies under the guise of students or business men. It has been charged by Western members that some steamboat and transcontinental railroad companies have been engaged in a conspiracy to aid in the violation of the exclusion laws. It is known that Mr. Metcalf believes that without the co-operation of American consuls abroad the present laws would be useless, and that almost the same results would be attained as if the gates were thrown open to all Chinese.

The impression is again becoming strengthened that the Chinese question will finally result in Mr. Metcalf's retirement from the cabinet.

Doctor Arrested in Florida.

Pensacola, Fla., Oct. 5.—The official fever report for today follows: New cases, 10; total to date, 185; deaths, 1, total, 37; total discharged, 75; under treatment, 85. A sensation was created this afternoon by the arrest of Dr. J. S. Herron for refusal to allow a sanitary officer to inspect his house. Dr. Herron is one of the oldest physicians in the city, and by many is considered an expert on yellow fever. The fever situation today while practically unchanged, shows more improvements in the deaths.

New Montana Reserves.

Butte, Mont., Oct. 5.—Advices received from Washington state that President Roosevelt issued a proclamation for two additional forest reserves in Montana, at the same time providing for large additions to the two present reserves. Altogether about 2,250,000 acres of land are involved. The two new reserves will be known as Hell Gate and Big Belt respectively. The former will comprise about 1,480,000 acres, and the latter 630,000 acres.

Yerkes to Succeed Metcalf.

Washington, Oct. 5.—It comes from high authority tonight that John W. Yerkes, of Kentucky, commissioner of Internal revenue, will shortly enter President Roosevelt's cabinet as secretary of commerce and labor upon the retirement of Victor Metcalf, of California, and that there is no question that Secretary of the Navy Bonaparte will succeed Attorney General Moody soon after congress meets.