

TO FLEECE INDIANS

Lawyers Lobby to Get Big Fee for Sale of Land.

HITCHCOCK STANDS IN THE WAY

Opening of South Half of Colville Reservation May Be Defeated by Crooked Scheme.

Washington, Feb. 3.—An attempt of certain lawyers to hold up the Colville Indians for \$150,000 cash is apt to defeat the bill now pending in congress to open the south half of their reservation and pay the Colville Indians \$1,500,000 for the land which they relinquished in the north half of the reservation ten years ago. These lawyers have been itching for many years to get a large slice of money which they believed the government would pay the Indians, but so far have not succeeded, because congress has never made an appropriation to pay for the Colville land.

Back in 1894, Acting Secretary of the Interior Simms approved a contract between the Indians and Marsh & Gordon, under which the latter were to secure the passage of a bill through congress paying the Indians \$1,500,000, the lawyers, in turn, to receive a fee amounting to 10 per cent, but this contract expired in ten years, and, when the lawyers sought to have it renewed, Secretary Hitchcock put his foot down and refused to permit the Indians to become involved in any such deal.

Ex-Senator Marion Butler, of North Carolina, and Hugh Gordon, of the old law firm, are now lobbying before congress in behalf of securing an appropriation of \$1,500,000, and then pulling down a fat fee of 10 per cent of that amount. Mr. Butler became an attorney in the case by assignment, and has been busy on the Colville bill for a year or two, though not invited to take a hand by any member of the Washington congressional delegation.

Only last year Mr. Butler appeared before the senate committee in advocacy of this bill, and, when questioned, as to his rights in the premises, declared that he and other lawyers were acting under an approved contract with the Indians. Yet at the same time he made that statement, the contract had been void for more than a year.

Mr. Butler, it is learned, takes the position that the old contracts are still in force, notwithstanding that they have not been renewed by Mr. Hitchcock.

SOON TO TRY FRAUDS.

Henny Says He Will Prosecute Hermann Among the First.

San Francisco, Feb. 3.—Francis J. Henny is engaged in mapping out plans for the continuation of the land fraud prosecutions in Portland. For three days he has denied himself to callers at his office, but today stated that he had not completed his arrangements. He is confident, however, that he will be able to reach all the offenders who have not yet been brought to justice. The disappearance of S. A. D. Futer, Horace McKinley, Marie Ware McKinley and Emma L. Watson does not worry him greatly.

"I can get along without the four people mentioned in probably every pending case except one," remarked Mr. Henny today, "but I believe we will locate most of them. I know where Marie Ware McKinley is. She is in San Francisco, and I have every reason to believe does not intend to refuse to be a witness again. I understand Horace G. McKinley has gone to the Orient, deserting his wife, Marie Ware McKinley."

Mr. Henny added that he will, in a day or two, be able to announce his plans. It is known that, while in Washington, he promised President Roosevelt that the case against Congressman Binger Hermann would be one of the first taken up.

Deficit Nearly Wiped Out.

Washington, Feb. 3.—The monthly statement of the government receipts and expenditures issued today shows a condition of the treasury which is eminently satisfactory to the authorities. One year ago today there was a deficit of over \$25,500,000, which has now been reduced to less than \$3,400,000, with the prospect that this amount will be entirely wiped out within the next 30 days. This improved condition is due almost entirely to a large increase in customs and internal revenue receipts.

Imports Double in Seven Years.

Washington, Feb. 3.—The imports into the United States have practically doubled in value in the last seven years, according to a bulletin issued by the bureau of Statistics in the department of Commerce and Labor. In the calendar year 1905 the imports aggregated in value \$1,179,000,000, as against \$635,000,000 in the calendar year 1898. The increase in importations is distributed through all classes and all articles of merchandise.

Military Reserves in Hawaii.

Washington, Feb. 3.—The president by proclamation has set aside certain lands at or near Diamond Head and at Kupikipi and at Punchbowl Hill, in the territory of Hawaii, for military purposes, until it can be determined by actual survey what portions of the land described will be required for permanent military reservations.

MINERS WILL STRIKE.

Every Mine in Country To Be Tied Up Till Better Pay Is Secured.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 2.—The rejection of the counter proposition offered by the coal operators of the central competitive district by an almost unanimous vote of the National convention of the United Mineworkers, and the adoption of a resolution offered by Secretary Ryan, of Illinois, placing the miners on record as a unit in refusing to sign an agreement for any district until an agreement was signed for all districts under the jurisdiction of the United Mineworkers, has created a situation which, in the opinion of the officials of the miners' organization, will result in the disruption of the joint agreement and probably one of the greatest strikes of organized labor the country has ever known.

Immediately after the rejection of the operators' proposition the convention set about to provide means for accumulating a strike fund of \$6,000,000 in addition to a like amount now on deposit in the international, district and sub-district treasuries of the miners' organizations. To provide for an emergency Secretary Wilson moved that a per capita tax of \$1 a week be voted and that all districts take care of the dependent miners within their jurisdiction for at least six weeks. He said that after that time he believed the international organization would be in a position to take care of the miners. After the motion had been amended to substitute ten weeks for six as the time during which the districts should care for their dependents, the matter was referred to the international executive board with power to act.

RIOTS AT CHURCHES.

Catholics Resist Entrance by Officers of French Republic.

Paris, Feb. 2.—Everywhere in France the actual putting into operation of the clause of church and state separation bill which provides for the making of inventories of the property of the churches has aroused a storm of protest. In several provincial parishes Catholics have gathered in the churches and made such strong resistance that the government commissioners were unable to enter the edifices.

In Paris today violent scenes took place in several churches, notably that of St. Clothilde. An inventory of the property of the church of St. Roche has not yet been made, owing to the opposition of the congregation, but the defenders of the church of St. Clothilde scuffled before the assault of an armed force which acted on the avowed intention of the government to use every means at its disposal to compel obedience to the enactment.

In the chamber of deputies this afternoon Premier Rouvier replied to an interpellation on the subject by a Socialist deputy. The government, however, secured a vote of confidence by 354 against 166, after the premier had assured the chamber that the government was desirous of using tact and moderation in carrying out the law, but that it was fully determined to perform its duty, no matter what the cost.

A dispatch from Dijon says fresh disturbances broke out today in front of the church of St. Michael. The square was closed only after the fire of a few shots and the efforts of mounted gendarmes. Many arrests were made.

TURN LIGHT ON HARRIMAN.

Democrats Propose an Inquiry Into Southern Pacific Combination.

Washington, Feb. 2.—The Post will say tomorrow:

The minority members of the house committee on Pacific railroads got together and agreed upon a plan of action through which they hope to throw the searchlight upon an alleged combine of the Southern Pacific and its tributaries, which they assert is on all fours with the Pennsylvania, Baltimore & Ohio, and Seaboard in the East.

A resolution will be introduced in the house requiring the president to transmit to congress all information that may be in the possession of the Interstate Commerce commission or any other division of any department of the government bearing upon the alleged fact that the Southern Pacific Railway company is the holding company of the Union Pacific, the O. R. & N. Co. and the Oregon Short Line.

Gale Brakes Up King David.

Victoria, Feb. 2.—The steamer Queen City, which reached Clayoquot today, reported that the British ship King David, which was wrecked on Bajo reef December 13, and abandoned by her crew while standing high and dry at low water on the reef, broke up during the gale on Monday, January 23, when the steamer Valencia was wrecked. Captain Davidson and crew, excepting the chief officer and eight men, who were lost when going to Cape Beale, to seek assistance were saved by the Queen City.

Caucasus Again in Revolt.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 2.—It is reported here that the village of Salungordon has been bombarded by the artillery in consequence of the refusal of the inhabitants to give in to the organizers of last month's disorders. The Caucasus is again in a state of rebellion. Mobs are plundering in Kutais Shosa and Elisabethopol, and there have been many fierce encounters between the Muslims and Armenians. The troops are unable to quell them.

Let People Elect Them.

Columbus, O., Feb. 2.—The house today adopted the senate joint resolution urging congress to submit a constitutional amendment providing for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

ADD TO RESERVES.

Government Will Soon to Take Action on Oregon Forests.

Washington—The present year is likely to see several million acres added to the forest reserve of Oregon. Up to this time 6,072,550 acres have been brought within permanent forest reserves, and 6,908,336 acres additional have been temporarily withdrawn. Just what part of this latter area is to become permanent forest reserve and what part is to be turned back to the public domain has not been determined.

Out of the withdrawals, however, 2,130,400 acres set apart for the Blue mountain reserve will be placed under the forest administration.

There has been an intimation that a proclamation will soon issue creating a Rogue river forest reserve in Southwestern Oregon, for which 1,192,320 acres have been withdrawn. This proposed reserve takes in fully half of Curry and Josephine counties and small portions of Coos and Douglas. When originally mapped out, the Rogue river reserve was deemed impracticable, because the railroad land grant traverses the area. Now that the lien land law is repealed and there is no danger of lien land frauds, this objection from the government standpoint seems to have been removed.

Various withdrawals of small areas in Marion, Linn, Lane and Douglas counties, aggregating 250,040 acres, have been made with a view to enlarging the Cascade reserve along its west boundary. It is quite probable that these tracts will be permanent reserves. The same is true of the withdrawal of 12,000 acres in Clackamas county adjoining the Cascade reserve.

In Morrow and Grant counties a withdrawal has been made embracing 417,000 acres, which will eventually be made into the Heppner forest reserve unless present plans are abandoned.

It has not yet been determined what disposition shall be made of the Warner mountain withdrawal, which embraces 2,839,816 acres in Klamath, Lake and Crook counties. Much of this land, upon examination, has been found unfit for forest reserve purposes, and will probably be turned back to the public domain, but those portions which are valuable for timber or as protection to watersheds are likely to be permanently reserved at some future time.

In addition to the foregoing, 1,280 acres in Jackson county have been withdrawn with a view to enlarging the Ashland reserve and 4,480 acres in Crook county withdrawn to enlarge Maury mountain reserve.

PROGRESS ON UMATILLA.

Water Users Sign Contract—Is Best Among Irrigation Plans.

Washington—Officials of the reclamation service are pleased with the progress being made by the landowners on the Umatilla irrigation project. Late advices from the local engineer indicate strong interest on the part of the water users, who have already pledged 13,000 out of the 18,000 acres included in the project. As most of the legal difficulties have been adjusted by the secretary of the interior, it is believed that no great delay will occur in signing up all the land embraced in this project.

Although Umatilla is one of the minor national works in point of cost and acreage, its favorable climate, low altitude, fertile soil and adaptability to a wide variety of products makes this one of the most attractive projects undertaken. The land is suited for orchards and small fruits, and, when so used, from 10 to 20 acres are ample for the support of a family. The fruit and vegetables are the finest on the market. Transportation facilities are excellent, the markets being Portland and Spokane.

The engineering works are simple, and, while the cost of the water is \$60 per acre, it is relatively low, compared with the values produced. Soil experts who have thoroughly examined the whole area are enthusiastic concerning the future of this section when watered and predict a populous and prosperous community here at no distant day.

Snow Is Heavy.

Burns—With 24 inches of snow in the Harney valley, and at places three feet of it, with the mountain roads almost impassable on account of the still heavier snowfall there, stockmen are anxious concerning the prospects of getting their stock through the winter. There is an abundance of hay in the county, but stock, and especially sheep, lose flesh after feeding any length of time on the wild product of the valley. In addition to this fact, there is the apprehension that a cold snap would probably have an injurious effect.

Traffic Resumes.

Sumpter—The severe weather which has visited this section for several days past has at last subsided, and business conditions as a consequence are assuming a more normal tone. Roads are in better shape and sleighing is good again. The Sumpter Valley railway trains are still somewhat delayed in making the round trip from here to Austin and return, and almost every day are several hours late in making connections at Baker City.

Land Money Divided.

Salem—Secretary of state Dunbar has apportioned the 5 per cent land sale fund among the several counties of the state. This fund was received from the United States government and constitutes 5 per cent of the proceeds of sales of government land in Oregon for 1905. The apportionment is made upon the basis of the acreage of the several counties. The amount is \$25,212.37.

Macadamize Milton Street.

Milton—Arrangements are being made to macadamize Main street as far as the depot and on to connect with the road that will be macadamized from Walla Walla to Freewater and Milton. This will be done in the early spring.

Look for Busy Season.

Baker City—In spite of the heavy snow, the past week has been lively in mining circles, especially here the placer men have been active in preparation for the coming season with the prospect of a plentiful supply of water. George W. and Edward Borman have just put 15 men at work cleaning out their big ditch near the old Virtue mine, seven miles east of Baker City. In that vicinity there has been more snow this winter than at any one season in the 31 years the Bormans have been here.

Heavy Steel To Be Laid.

Albany—The Southern Pacific company has already begun the work of replacing the light steel on its track in the Willamette valley with heavy 75 pound steel rails, and the distributing train is scattering the new material along the company's lines through Linn county. Before the end of the coming summer the company expects to have the entire line through the western part of the state laid with these heavy rails.

Feed Cattle On Beet Pulp.

La Grande—Grandy & Russell, the butcher firm, are feeding 1,000 head of cattle this winter, mostly for their own use. A great deal of sugar beet pulp is used, also a large quantity of hay. Ten men are employed steadily in feeding and caring for the stock. Five teams are engaged in hauling beet pulp and three wagons are used in hauling hay.

To Prospect for Oil.

Eugene—J. W. Zimmerman and C. F. Mitchell, of this city, who are working on a coal prospect ten miles southwest of Eugene, are preparing articles of incorporation and will organize a joint stock company immediately to work the property. They have struck a vein of coal which they say promises well. They also announce that they will bore 1,000 feet or more in hope of striking oil.

Minors Smoke Cigarettes.

Eugene—The members of the Loyal Temperance league, recently organized here, have taken up the matter of enforcing the law against giving and selling tobacco to minors. They announce that the first one caught violating the law will be arrested and fined.

CAPTAIN LOSES CONTROL.

When Valencia Struck, There Was a Mad Rush for Boats.

Seattle, Jan. 31.—Little by little the testimony of survivors of the Pacific Coast company's steamer Valencia, before Inspectors Whitney and Turner, is demonstrating that immediately after the boat struck there was a mad rush for the boats, in which the men jostled women aside and fought for places, and in which the crew either was powerless to prevent the overcrowding of the boats, or, losing courage, joined the rush.

There are conspicuous examples of seamen who did not attempt to save themselves, and there stands out occasionally a man who advised caution, but among the majority of the crew there seems to have spread a panic as great as that felt by the passengers themselves. Inspectors Whitney and Turner—the former in particular—show a sympathy for Captain Johnson that is evident in their examination of witnesses. Inspector Whitney today seemed eager to demonstrate that Captain Johnson intended to have held the life boats on the Valencia until the morning after she struck and then send off the passengers. He was just as anxious to bring out proof that the passengers led a rush toward the life boats, and were responsible for their overcrowding and loss.

Strongest of all the testimony that bears upon the crew's responsibility is that of Quartermaster Martin Tarpey, who testified late today that he had helped to lower life boat No. 1, whose fall collapsed and precipitated the passengers into the water. Tarpey says, too, that a watchman begged the men to stand back from the boats and give the women a chance.

VIEW IRRIGATION WORK.

Henny Coming to Study Yakima and Malheur Projects.

Washington, Jan. 31.—D. C. Henny, in charge of government reclamation work in Oregon and Washington, returned today from Holland, and will spend several days in conference with department officials before going West. While here he will probably take up with Director Walcott the proposition of Senator Fulton that the Malheur project be remodeled to irrigate only those lands not entangled in the wagon road grant or railroad right of way.

When he leaves here, Mr. Henny will go first to the Yakima valley to ascertain what progress has been made since he left; then to Portland.

Senator Gearin today asked the Reclamation service to make an investigation of an irrigation project in Crook county which it is hoped might utilize the water of the Deschutes river to reclaim about 1,000 acres. Mr. Walcott told the senator there is no money available for further work in Oregon at this time, and will not be for several years to come. For that reason he did not deem it advisable to authorize new investigations at this time.

CAUCASUS GIVING UP.

People in Thousands Submit to Government's Demands.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 31.—Alarmed by the vigorous campaign waged by the troops under General Alikhanoff, the inhabitants of the Caucasus are abandoning the revolutionist cause. They are coming in by thousands to make submission, and are giving the most absolute promises of good conduct in the future. In many cases the inhabitants themselves have seized and delivered up the ringleaders of the insurrection.

In a telegram to the emperor, Count von Vorontzoff Dashkoff, viceroy of the Caucasus, says General Alikhanoff received one deputation of 8,000 persons, representing 12 communes, near Kvirili. The deputation, which was headed by nobles and clergymen, promised to stop the disorders, to return all property and arms seized and to pay all arrears of rents and taxes if the general would not punish their people.

Another deputation brought in the participants in the attack on the troops at Tengra bound with ropes.

In the district of Osargeil, however, the viceroy says, the entire population remains obstinate. One half the people have fled to the mountains and others are roaming the country, ravaging it and burning houses.

Increase Paper Currency.

Washington, Jan. 31.—Representative Fowler, of New Jersey, chairman of the house committee on banking and currency, introduced a bill today providing for the increase of the amount of gold certificates by empowering the secretary of the treasury to make deposits of gold coin in sums not less than \$20 and to issue gold coin certificates in denominations of not less than \$5. This bill is designed to increase the amount of paper money in smaller denominations. The smallest gold certificate now is for \$20.

Oust Trust from New Jersey.

Trenton, N. J., Jan. 31.—In the state senate today, Mr. Minturn introduced a resolution calling for the institution of legal proceedings in the name of the state against the Standard Oil company of New Jersey and its subsidiary corporations in the state for the purpose of annulling and forfeiting the charter of the company on the ground of the alleged violation of the common law relating to monopolies and of the Elkins law.

Hadley Helps Ohio's Fight.

Jefferson City, Mo., Jan. 31.—Attorney General Hadley today wrote to the New York commissioner who heard the testimony in the Missouri case against the Standard Oil company, asking him to forward the testimony to the attorney general of Ohio.

STORIES CONFLICT

All Agree There Was Confusion On Board Valencia.

NATIONAL INVESTIGATION ASKED

Member of Crew Says Passengers Had As Much Chance as Life Rafts as Crew.

Seattle, Feb. 1.—The positive declaration made by Frank Richey, a fireman aboard the Valencia, that he had refused to risk wearing a life preserver; the statement of T. Brown, a passenger, that the preserver he found ashore immediately sank when thrown into the water, were the sensational features of today's inquiry into the Valencia wreck.

Supplementing these sworn statements, and equally important, is the peremptory demand of the Seattle chamber of commerce that President Roosevelt send from Washington a committee to make a thorough investigation of the wreck.

Fireman Richey's declaration that no officer went off in command of No. 6 lifeboat was the other sensational feature of the day. Richey's statements, though, are not worth much, for he was badly mixed on the stand when examined, and later the sailor Joslyn contradicted him flatly on points where Richey had wavered under cross-examination.

Joslyn testified that after the No. 6 boat had gone he went to No. 5.

Contradicting the testimony of H. A. Hawkins, who yesterday said the forward fall on this boat had broken, Joslyn said it was all right. He stated that the after fall had been cut. When the last boat was lowered from No. 5 fall, he said, it had become necessary to take the fall from No. 6 over and rig them on the No. 5 davits.

William Dougherty, a fireman, stated the lifeboat's tackle was in bad condition. He said that when the order was given to lower the boat it was difficult to do so, because the ropes holding them to the davits were entangled. He heard some one order the boats lowered, but does not know who gave the order. He helped lower one of the boats.

When asked what chance the passengers had of getting into the life raft he gave the significant answer: "They had as much chance as the crew."

CORBIN LEAVES ISLANDS.

Transfers Command to Wood with Public Ceremony.

Manila, Feb. 1.—Major General Corbin today relinquished command of the military division of the Philippines to Major General Wood and sailed for Hongkong, accompanied by his personal staff. The transfer of command was made with impressive ceremony at Fort Santiago. Army and navy officers, clergy and business men and others from civil life were present. For the first time in the change of commanders there was no parade of the troops.

In giving over the command to General Wood, General Corbin said: "It has been my aim to make the army here an honor to the country and a credit to the military service. Coming here, I placed myself in touch with Governor General Wright, and he met me in the same spirit in which I approached him. As a result there has been a total disappearance of the last vestige of friction and jealousy between the military and civil government."

Major General Wood and Governor Ide made brief speeches expressing the universal regret over General Corbin's departure. All classes of business men declare that General Corbin has done more to aid commerce than any previous commander. There was a popular demonstration when he embarked. General Wood has announced that he will continue General Corbin's policy.

Patterson Takes Hand in Smoot Case

Washington, Feb. 1.—Some significance is attached to the change made today in the membership of the senate committee on privileges and elections. Clarke, of Arkansas, has never attended any meetings, nor was it known how he stood in regard to the Smoot case, pending before the committee. It is known, however, that the substitution of Patterson for Clarke is satisfactory to those who have been opposing Smoot. It is also known that Clarke has been dissatisfied with the committee assignments given him.

Flood Swallows Money.

El Paso, Tex., Feb. 1.—Laden with bullion valued at \$100,000, a train of donkeys was on its way to Mazatlan from the Guadalupe de los Reyes mines in Sinaloa, Mexico, when the roadbed, high above the river, caved in as the result of heavy rains. The burros and their precious cargo were swept away in the floodwaters. Several drivers perished with them. Search was immediately begun for the precious metal, which was in bars of gold and silver.

Revolution in Colombia.

Panama, Feb. 1.—Private advices received here from Cartagena are to the effect that General Gonzalez Valencia, ex-president of Colombia, and General Neloepan have started a revolution in the province of Antioquia against President Reyes.