

AFTER STANDARD OIL

Witness to Give Details of Bribery of Railroad Men.

MAY TRY MANAGER FOR PERJURY

Testified Before Interstate Commerce Commission That Money Was Not Being Used to Bribe Railroads.

Chicago, May 10.—The government has a rod in pickle for the Standard Oil Company, when the investigation into rebates and other methods is taken up here tomorrow by the interstate commerce commission. It was learned tonight that a witness had been secured who is in a position to tell, giving all necessary data, dates, amounts, etc., of how the Standard Oil Company engaged in wholesale bribery of railroad employees in order to crush out the independents. This man was employed by Manager Mayer, of Kansas City, who has charge of the tremendous distributing stations in Kansas and Missouri.

It is said he was entrusted with the work of buying up information from railroad employees, who told of orders received by independents, of their plans for shipments in advance, and various other details, so that the Standard Company was in a position at any moment to take such steps as were necessary to crush or hopelessly cripple its small adversary.

The name of this highly important witness is closely guarded, but it is said his testimony will create a tremendous sensation and bring before the federal grand jury a large number of western railroad men who have been in the secret employ of the Standard.

Mr. Mayer, it is also intimated, is open to prosecution for perjury, as he swore before the interstate commerce commission, when it sat at Kansas City, that he had never given any of his agents money to be used in bribing railroad or other men. The testimony will show, it is said, that the railroad spies were on the secret Standard Oil payroll at from \$10 to \$30 a month, depending upon how much information they could give.

SOLD SECRETS TO AMERICA.

Two Germans Sentenced for Treason to Empire.

Leipzig, Germany, May 10.—Before the imperial supreme court here today Otto Senfleben, an ex-clerk in one of the government departments in Berlin, and Konrad, a mechanic, were found guilty of treason in selling to representatives of the American legation at Brussels a submarine mine with anchoring apparatus and drawings belonging to them.

The prisoners were also charged with selling similar drawings to Russia, and with having constructed a mine in Brussels, which was bought from them through a French intermediary.

Senfleben was sentenced to four and Konrad to three years at penal servitude and five years' loss of civil rights and to police supervision. Aucke, a commercial traveler, was acquitted.

GREAT DAMAGE TO STEAMERS.

Columbia Needs \$100,000 of Repairs, Puebla \$15,000.

San Francisco, May 10.—Considerable damage was done by the earthquake to vessels on the ways or in course of construction at the Union Iron Works.

Besides the freighters Mexican and Columbia, being built for the Hawaiian-American Steamship Company, which were damaged about \$15,000 each, the Columbia, which has been long on the Portland run, and the City of Puebla, a Seattle boat, were damaged.

The damage to the Columbia will be \$100,000. The boat is now submerged, having sunk with the dock on which it rested. The City of Puebla was less seriously damaged; \$15,000 will cover her losses.

Works for Philippines.

Washington, May 10.—Secretary Taft by a personal canvass of the senate today endeavored to revive sentiment in favor of Philippine tariff legislation at the present session of congress. He made arguments in favor of a reduction of schedules on sugar, tobacco and rice to 50 per cent of the Dingley rates. The measure left sleeping in the senate Philippine committee provides for a reduction on these articles to 25 per cent of existing schedules. He was willing to go further and to eliminate the proposition for eventual free trade with the Philippines.

Discredited in Washington.

Washington, May 10.—At the war department it was stated today that nothing was known of the reported surreptitious purchase at Brussels of plans for a submarine mine. Attention was also called to the fact that there is no military attaché to the American legation at Brussels.

PARLIAMENT MEETS.

Elect or Russian People Assemble in Open Session.

St. Petersburg, May 11.—Without a single hitch and with only a minor incident to mar the memorable day, the Russian parliament was inaugurated yesterday. The emperor's message in reality was less a throne speech than a greeting, and required only three minutes for its delivery. Emperor Nicholas even cordial tone of the sovereign in renewing his pledges and asking the cooperation of parliament for the regeneration of the country was only negatively satisfactory.

Couriers and spectators other than members of the national parliament led the cheering, but the members were ominously silent. What rankled most was the failure of the emperor to mention amnesty, and later, when the members assembled in the Tauride palace, away from the spell of the throne room, many of them were with difficulty restrained from precipitating matters by offering resolutions on the subject. The Constitutional Democratic leaders, however, who dominated everything, were anxious not to weaken the reply which the lower house will prepare to the speech from the throne, in which issues with the crown will be joined, and succeeded in staving off premature action.

By the irony of fate, Ivan Petrunkevich, whose first mention of the word constitution 12 years ago was dismissed by Emperor Nicholas II as "a foolish dream," today stood in the front rank of the members of the representative chamber, while Emperor Nicholas put his official seal upon the Russian parliament.

GIVES MANY BRIBES

Inner Workings of Standard Oil Made Public by Former Employee.

Chicago, May 11.—Corruption of railroad employes and agents of independent oil companies, dishonest methods of procuring land leases, the giving of short measure, the selling of three different kinds of oil out of the same tank and misrepresentations as to the quality of oil sold, were charged against the Standard Oil company at today's hearing before the Interstate Commerce commission. Incidentally, it was charged that the Frisco road gives a rate of 2 cents a hundred pounds to the Standard Oil company when it charges competitors of that corporation 10 times as much for the same haul.

The inquiry was held under an order of congress and this session held here today was along the same lines as that held some time ago in Kansas City. The principal witnesses today were E. M. Wilhoit, of Springfield, Mo., formerly for ten years agent of the Standard Oil company at Topeka, but now an independent operator; H. C. Deran, of Fremont, O.; E. P. Ripley, president of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe road, and M. Maxon, a former agent of the Standard Oil in Illinois.

PUT OVER HEAD OF HART.

China Appoints New Officials to Manage Customs Service.

Pekin, May 11.—An imperial edict which may radically affect the status of Sir Robert Hart, director general of the Chinese customs and the customs establishment, was published today, as follows:

"Tieh Liang, president of the board of revenue, is hereby appointed superintendent of customs affairs. Tong Shao, junior vice president of the Foreign board, is appointed associate minister of Customs affairs. All Chinese and foreigners employed in the various customs are placed under their control."

Both these offices are new creations in the customs service. Hitherto the customs have been nominally under the direction of the Foreign board, but practically Sir Robert Hart has exercised absolute control.

The diplomats here are unwilling to comment on the edict until its intentions and full force are apparent. If it means a step toward active Chinese management of the customs, the foreign government are expected to resist it.

London Companies' Instructions.

London, May 11.—At a meeting today of managers of insurance companies here involved in the San Francisco disaster, it was voted to telegraph the following instructions to the companies' representatives at San Francisco: "We desire a committee to act with American companies in adjusting losses in strict conformity with each company's separate policy conditions, acting on legal and expert advice, referring home disputed cases which involve important principles and doubtful to legal ability."

Will Make Jefferson Statue.

Washington, May 11.—Secretary Root announced today that Augustus St. Gaudens had been secured as sculptor for the proposed Thomas Jefferson monument to be erected in Washington.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

ASSESSMENT TO BE COLLECTED.

Klamath Water-Users' Association Will Assert Its Corporate Power.

Klamath Falls.—Directors of the Klamath Water-Users' Association at a recent meeting instructed their attorney to proceed to enforce the collection of the assessment from the delinquent members, after giving reasonable notice that such action would be taken if payments were not made at once. About 120 of the 320 members are delinquent, averaging about \$7 for each stockholder thus delinquent, and the association will now assert its corporate powers.

Books of the association closed since January 1 have been reopened for subscriptions, but landowners will hereafter be obliged to pay an enrollment fee or penalty of 50 cents an acre in order to become stockholders.

Land Office Collections.

Salem.—Secretary Brown, of the state land board, has turned over to the state treasury cash received in his office for the month of April as follows: Common school fund principal, payments on certificates and cash sales, \$23,467.61; common school fund principal, payments on sales of lands acquired by deed or foreclosure, \$907; common school fund interest, payments on certificates, \$3,633.87; common school fund interest, and payments on sales of land acquired by deed or foreclosure, \$484.55; agricultural college fund principal, payments on certificates and cash sales, \$1,379.25; agricultural college fund interest, payments on certificates, \$291.76; total, \$30,164.04.

Fire Risk Increase at Eugene.

Eugene.—Several months ago a representative of the board of fire underwriters of the Pacific visited Eugene and announced that nearly all the business houses of the city were improperly wired, and were not up to the standard set by the code. Effort was made by owners of buildings to have defective wiring made right, while others disregarded the notice. Now comes the information to fire insurance agents of this city that insurance rates have been advanced on account of defective wiring. The average increase is 50 cents per \$100. The announcement has created a stir among property holders, and steps will be taken to secure better wiring.

Examinations for Forest Service.

Roseburg.—Examinations will be held at Roseburg, Ore., May 14, for the position of forest ranger. Aspirants for positions who have not filed applications for examination with the United States commission at Washington should file at once with S. C. Bartram, forest supervisor at Roseburg, from whom application blanks may be secured. The positions are under civil service. Examination will be along practical lines relating to forest patrol. Men between 21 and 40, of sound bodily condition, are eligible. Civil service examinations for the position of forest supervisor will be held in Portland, Astoria, Baker City and Eugene, May 18.

Salmon in Grand Ronde.

La Grande.—Superintendent Allen, of the Walla Walla salmon hatchery, was in La Grande recently, and stated that the hatchery released a few days ago 1,000,000 fry and about the same amount will be ready to be released within a short time. Operations at the Walla Walla hatchery so far are considered satisfactory. Salmon have commenced jumping in the Grand Ronde river at Oro Dell, a mile above La Grande. The salmon, which in the early history of the valley came up the river in abundance, have for the past number of years almost entirely disappeared. It is now hoped that the hatchery will be the means of restocking the river.

Improve Orchard Tract.

La Grande.—The Red Apple Orchard Company, which owns a large tract about three miles north of town in the foothills, is planning extensive improvements. About seventy-five acres will be cleared and the ground put in condition for the planting of apples. There is already a large area of growing trees, including fifteen acres of 15-year-old apple trees and forty-five acres of 2-year-old trees. There are five or six springs located on this tract, and it is the intention of the company to enlarge some of them, forming a lake, which will be stocked with fish.

Scouring Mills Resume.

Pendleton.—After being shut down since last October the Pendleton scouring mills will resume operations May 14. The mills are now being given a thorough overhauling and will be placed in first-class condition by that time. W. M. McDonald, of Boston, has arrived to take charge as superintendent.

Plant Big Orchard.

La Grande.—W. Lyman and L. Oldenburg have finished planting an apple orchard of ninety-five acres near Imbler. There are 4,500 trees of three varieties, including 2,500 Rome Beauties, 1,000 Ganos and 1,000 York Imperials. The balance of the tract, about sixty acres, was planted in potatoes.

Expect Heavy Fruit Crop.

La Grande.—Grande Ronde growers report the fruit prospects flattering for this season. It is expected that the crop will be twice as large as any previous year, and that there will be at least 500 carloads shipped from this valley. The apple and cherry yields will be very large.

SHEEPMEN PROTEST.

Oregon Men Not Satisfied With Allotment of Wenaha Reserve.

Pendleton.—Sheepmen of Umatilla county have made vigorous protest against the action of forest reserve officials at Walla Walla in standing by the allotment recently made of the range in Wenaha reserve. A remonstrance from Umatilla county has been filed with D. B. Sheller, forest reserve superintendent at Walla Walla.

Facts and figures are given in support of the contention of Oregon stockmen. These in substance are as follows: Of the total land in the reserve, 700,000 acres, more than half lies in Oregon. Only 35,357 Oregon sheep were admitted to the reserve, whereas 123,000 Washington sheep were allowed. To add insult to injury, 58,169 of the Washington sheep were allotted to range in this state. No Oregon sheep were allotted range in Washington. In scaling the number to be allowed in the reserve the Oregon men were cut down 50 per cent, while the Washington men were allowed practically all they asked.

It is held by the Oregon stockmen that forest reserve rules were violated by the manner in which the reserve was allotted. The rules specifically provide that in allotment of range in reserve, stockmen of the state in which the reserve is located shall be given preference.

Accompanying the general remonstrance were affidavits from twenty sheepmen of this county, setting forth claims to land in the reserve allotted to Washington men.

JOHN DAY PROSPERS.

People Flocking to That Section from All Parts of Northwest.

Baker City.—Many people from over the Northwest are flocking through Baker City on their way into the John Day country to take up timber claims. A few days ago a party of Idaho people went to Sumpter en route to the timber belt, and another party went from this place.

For the past three months timber seekers have come from Western Oregon, Washington and Idaho, and much valuable timber land has been located. Last week two parties, one of eight and one of five people, went out. These were Idaho people, who were evidently satisfied with their locations, as the last party which passed through here was composed of friends of the former company. All are from Genesee, Idaho.

July Fourth at Chautauqua.

Oregon City.—At a meeting here of the board of directors of the Willamette Valley Chautauqua Association it was decided to hold suitable exercises at Gladstone Park, July 4 next, in celebration of Independence Day. The grounds will be thrown open to campers July 2, eight days before the convening of the Chautauqua. No steps have been taken by the people of Oregon City towards celebrating this anniversary, and all will probably unite in the celebration that is planned by the Chautauqua Assembly.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 71¢@72¢; bluestem, 72¢@73¢; red, 69¢@70¢; valley, 70¢.

Oats—No. 1 white feed, 27.50¢@28¢; gray, 27¢ per ton.

Barley—Feed, 23.50¢@24¢ per ton; brewing, 24¢@24.50¢; rolled, 24.50¢@25.50¢.

Hay—Valley timothy, 12¢@13¢; clover, 47.50¢@48¢; chest, 46¢@47¢; grain hay, 47¢@48¢; alfalfa, 42¢.

Fruits—Apples, 32¢@3.00 per box; strawberries, 1¢ 25¢@1.65 per crate; Oregon, 20¢ per pound.

Vegetables—Asparagus, 75¢@1.25 per box; cabbage, 22.85¢@3.00 per hundred; cauliflower, 22.25¢ per crate; celery, 55.00¢ per crate; head lettuce, 25¢ per dozen; onions, 10¢@15¢ per dozen; radishes, 20¢ per dozen; rhubarb, 3¢@4¢ per pound; spinach, 90¢ per box; parsley, 25¢; turnips, 41¢@1.25 per sack; carrots, 65¢@75¢ per sack; beets, 85¢@1.10 per sack.

Onions—No. 1, 3¢ per pound.

Potatoes—Fancy graded burbanks, 60¢@70¢ per hundred; ordinary, 50¢@60¢; new California, 4¢ per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 17¢@20¢ per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 18¢@18½¢ per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 14¢@15¢ per pound; mixed chickens, 13¢@14¢; broilers, 20¢@22½¢; young roosters, 12½¢@13¢; old roosters, 11¢@12½¢; dressed chickens, 16¢@16½¢; turkeys, live, 17¢@18¢; turkeys, dressed, choice, 20¢@23¢; geese, live, 10¢@11¢; geese, dressed, 10¢@11¢; ducks, 17¢@18¢.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, 12¢@12½¢.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 16¢@21¢; valley, 24¢@26¢ per pound; mohair, choice, 28¢@30¢.

Veal—Dressed, 3½¢@7¢ per pound.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 3¢ per pound; cows, 4½¢@5½¢; country steers, 5¢@6¢.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 8¢@8½¢ per pound; ordinary, 5¢@6¢; lambs, with pelt on, 9¢@10¢.

Pork—Dressed, 7¢@8½¢ per pound.

LOOT RELIEF CARS.

Toughs Break Open on Docks and Take Much of Contents.

Oakland, Cal., May 9.—A new and heretofore unsuspected loophole for wholesale grafting of supplies intended for relief work was this morning disclosed by Colonel Maus, of the Quartermaster's Department, who has been supervising the distribution of food-stuffs. Somewhere between people who load cars of stuff at outside points and dispatch them to San Francisco and the authorities who should receive them, wholesale looting has been done.

Colonel Maus states that he has received bills of lading for cars of stuff which he has found on opening to be entirely empty. This information has been laid before both the civil and military authorities, and an effort will be made to locate the looters and confiscate their ill-gotten goods.

There is no thought in the minds of the authorities now that the thefts have been by responsible parties, but simply by some of the many gangs of toughs which have their headquarters on the waterfront. It is believed that these people have broken into the cars on the docks while in transit across the bay. A thorough search of their camps will be made, and it is expected a great amount of stolen property will be uncovered.

General Greeley feels that the food situation is rapidly becoming better. The kitchen system will be given a trial, and Major Feibiger is superintending the establishment of five headquarters in various parts of the city, where cooked food will be distributed, rather than the customary bread and canned stuff.

The net is gradually being drawn tighter to decrease the number of free eaters. All applicants for rations are now challenged and the cases of all suspicious characters thoroughly investigated. Men earning wages are refused free supplies and free meal tickets.

THREE MORE ARRESTED.

Another Bag Among Oshkosh Lumbermen for Fraud in Oregon.

Oshkosh, Wis., May 9.—Three more Wisconsin lumbermen have been served with warrants charging them with complicity in Oregon timberland frauds, the warrants being issued on indictments formulated by a Federal grand jury sitting in Portland during April. The last men to be served were Joseph Black, John C. Black and August Anderson, all of Shawano, right Wisconsin men are now under arrest as the result of Federal capias issued at Portland. The Shawano men were expected the indictments, and accepted service through their attorney, M. J. Walzick, who furnished bail for their appearance with the Oshkosh men before Federal Court Commissioner McDonald in this city Friday.

In the indictment it is charged that the Blacks and Anderson conspired with Sumner A. Parker, of Ashland, Or., to obtain land by means of proving up on false statements of alleged settlers in the Lakeview district, and that these lands were obtained for the Oshkosh Land & Lumber Company, of which the Oshkosh defendants were members.

STEVEDORES GO ON STRIKE.

Paid Full Wages, They Refuse to Settle for Their Meals.

Oakland, Cal., May 9.—A situation humorous and serious at once was created today by a group of some 50 stevedores who were at work on the Folsom street dock unloading Government relief supplies. While other men are donating their services and sacrificing their businesses to aid in the relief work, these men of toil have been receiving a bright half dollar for each hour of work they have done.

Now, when the Government officials ask these men to pay 40 cents for the three meals they eat each day on the transport Creek, the laborers are incensed and withdraw their services. In a word, the stevedores have been paid the same wages as they received before the fire, so say the Government officials, and they strike when asked to pay for their meals a mere fraction of what it would cost them at other places.

The work of unloading is as a consequence at a standstill, but if the strikers do not return, men from the refugee camps will be impressed into service.

LESSONS OF THE DISASTER.

Merits of Steel and Worthlessness of Granite, Says Metcalf.

Washington, May 9.—Secretary Metcalf returned to Washington today from San Francisco. In discussing the situation today with a representative of the Associated Press, Mr. Metcalf said the destruction of San Francisco and other California cities and towns furnished the best object lesson to architects and builders in this country and in the world. It was proven conclusively, he said, that steel structures had best withstood the shock and fire, and that granite, under intense heat, was practically worthless.

Another point which impressed him considerably was the fact that the situation disclosed a less proportion of poor persons in San Francisco than generally had been supposed. It was found that there was on deposit on the day of the calamity in savings banks over \$105,000,000, or an average of \$6500 per capita for every citizen of the city.

Vesuvius Breaks Out Again.

Naples, May 9.—Vesuvius is again showing considerable activity. Today a dense column of smoke is arising from the crater and spreading like an umbrella, accompanied by loud detonations and electrical discharges, which are especially noticeable from Resina. The main crater is discharging sand and cinders.

YEARS TO REBUILD

More Hopeful Estimates Made to Keep Up Courage.

LOSS WILL REACH \$400,000,000

Enthusiastic Talk of New City Next Summer Sure to Cause Heartaches in Future.

San Francisco, May 12.—Three weeks after the great disaster one is able to view the situation calmly and to compute with fair accuracy the loss suffered by San Francisco from fire. Strange to relate, the citizens of San Francisco for the most part do not appreciate the extent of the disaster. Sober judgment has been for the time confused by the extravagant recital of plans for rebuilding. Of course the city will be reconstructed as speedily as possible, but a best it is a question of years. The enthusiastic claim that next summer will see a new San Francisco. This is the talk which has brought elation for the moment and means heartache for the future. Five years will not see the city restored, and ten is certainly a safer figure.

The spirit of the people must be kept up and this perhaps is adequate excuse for the rather visionary tales which fill the public prints. The truth is sufficient to crush the weak and to bring dismay to the strong.

The city is without money. Great fortunes have been swept away. Landed estates are without revenue. The wheels of commerce move slow and halting. Thousands have been thrown from employment. Still, the spirit is here. It is this which most win the triumph. And it will win.

The loss occasioned by fire and earthquake will exceed \$400,000,000. No disaster in history approaches this. The total loss in Chicago in 1871 was \$190,000,000. San Francisco will collect in insurance about \$100,000,000. The city will therefore be out of pocket some \$300,000,000. This means an average of more than \$600 for every man, woman and child in San Francisco. How can the city spring at once into being under this enormous burden? It must pledge its future for the necessities of the present.

CITIZENS IN MISERABLE PLIGHT.

General Greeley Says Everyone Keeps Up Courage Remarkably.

Washington, May 12.—The War department received the following telegram over night from General Greeley, dated Presidio, San Francisco, May 9: "While conditions improve slightly, the miserable situation may be indicated by the statement that all the food for 300,000 people in San Francisco is yet necessarily cooked on the public streets. The courage of every one continues wonderfully. Neither drunkenness nor disorder anywhere, except from adjacent towns occasionally. Mayor Schmitz is still adverse to closed saloons, which have been constantly urged by me.

"The Red Cross finance committee, Dr. Devine and myself concurring, will issue free food after Saturday next only on alternate days, except in camps under strict military control. Red Cross agents are to be present on alternate days of nonissue to provide for exceptional cases of need that may arise.

"The average issue in San Francisco, Oakland, etc., still exceeds 250,000 a day. A possible method by questioning, exclusion and otherwise is being made to reduce the food issue. Of course, extreme destitution and much suffering occurs on the part of many people who resort to charity only in extreme cases. Altogether I am encouraged.

"Greeley, Major-General Commanding."

Irish Members Protest.

London, May 12.—On the resumption of the debate on the education bill in the House of Commons today, John Redmond, the Irish leader, in behalf of the Irish Nationalists, protested against the system of education which was being forced on the Catholic minority and which violated their conscience. Ireland, he added, had always been demagogical in principle, believing that religion was the most necessary part of the education of children. The bill was passed on its second reading by a vote of 410 to 214.

Relief Funds Exceed \$5,000,000.

San Francisco, May 12.—The finance committee today reported relief subscriptions as follows: Actually promised, \$5,007,711; unconfirmed promised, \$310,750; total, \$5,318,461.