

CHANGE ALL AROUND

President Reorganizing Heads of Canal Board.

CAN FIND NO PLACE FOR OLLIVER

Stevens Will Retire Early Next April After Successor is Thoroughly Broken In.

Washington, Feb. 28.—The president conferred at the White House today with Secretaries Taft and Root regarding the details of the reorganization scheme for the Panama canal work. It is understood that Colonel Haines and Benjamin Harrod, civil engineers, both members of the present commission, will retire. Admiral Endicott, the only remaining member of the old commission, will be retained, as the law requires that one naval civil engineer shall be included in its membership. Majors Goethals, Gallard and Siebert, who were named as members of the commission, will receive salaries considerably in excess of those they now receive, namely, \$4,000 a year. It is the intention to divide among them the salaries now paid to Messrs. Shonts and Stevens, aggregating \$60,000 per annum, so long as they are engaged in canal work.

It is stated that Chief Engineer Stevens resigned with the statement that he would remain in charge of the Isthmus until his successor arrived and was thoroughly initiated into the new duties and prepared to take them over. It is probable the transfer can be effected early in April.

It will be necessary for the army engineers to make a personal inspection of every part of the canal construction work before any determination can be made as to the method of conducting work in the future. The president's letter yesterday indicated that there might be a recurrence to the contract plan, but even if that should be the case, the officers will find themselves able to manage the work in a supervisory capacity, just as they now do several of the large river and harbor projects in execution in this country.

Telegrams were received at the White House today from the South, asking the president to name W. J. Olliver, whose bid for the construction of the canal was rejected, as a member of the Isthmian Canal commission. Mr. Taft said tonight that he did not believe the president was considering such an appointment. Mr. Olliver said he would not accept the place if it were tendered him. When he has been officially notified that the bid of the Panama Canal Construction company has been rejected, Mr. Olliver will give out a statement for publication.

HERMANN SCOHES.

Nat Friendly With Benson; Only Did as Other Commissioners.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Two important points for the defense developed today in the trial of Representative Hermann. One was that Hermann was not on friendly terms with John A. Benson, the San Francisco real estate dealer now under indictment for alleged land frauds, the other that Hermann's predecessors in the land office had all, with one exception, removed their private letter press copy books from the office when they retired.

Mr. Worthington for the defense scored his two points in the cross-examination of Elliott P. Hough, former private secretary to Hermann. In answer to questions, Mr. Hough said that upon one occasion Benson came to see Hermann at the land office and complained bitterly at the action of the land office in not allowing his claim for a survey made in California. The survey was under a \$50,000 contract. The land office held that the claim was fraudulent in that the alleged survey had never been made. Benson was very angry, and Hermann, during the interview, became incensed.

Votes Down Jim Crow Car.

Guthrie, Okla., Feb. 28.—The constitution of the proposed new state of Oklahoma will not contain a plank providing for separate coaches and waiting rooms for the two races. By a vote of 46 to 31 the convention this morning laid on the table the committee report urging the "Jim Crow" measure. While the majority of the delegates were elected on platforms endorsing the separate coach law, the result was due to the alleged attitude of the president on the question and the terms of the enabling act.

Fever Prostrates Crew.

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 28.—The battleship Connecticut, proceeding from Southern waters to New York with an epidemic of typhoid fever among her crew, was in communication with Norfolk by wireless telegraph tonight when off the Virginia capital. A message from the Connecticut says 15 of the men stricken with typhoid are in a critical condition.

MUST NOT OWN PROPERTY.

California Legislature Passes a Bill Against Orientals.

Sacramento, Cal., Mar. 1.—The lower house of the legislature today passed a sweeping anti-Japanese and anti-Chinese measure, introduced by Assemblyman Drew, of Fresno. The bill is known as the "anti-alien property holding bill." It is aimed at the Japanese and Chinese property owners in this state and is intended to prevent them from acquiring and owning property for a longer period than five years. In urging the passage of the bill Drew stated that since January 1 of this year one-third of the property transfers in Fresno had been to Japanese.

The bill provides that any alien who does not become a citizen of the United States shall acquire and hold title to land in this state for not more than five years. If within that time the alien does not become a citizen, the district attorney shall compel the sale of his land or houses. Japanese and Chinese are not specifically named, but, as they cannot become citizens, the bill is aimed directly at them and precludes them from owning property for more than five years. The measure also provides that no contract, agreement or lease of real estate for a longer period than one year shall be made to any alien and any lease, agreement or devise of real estate made to any alien for a longer period shall be null and void.

The impression is given out that if the bill reaches the governor he will sign it.

LABORATORY FOR NORTHWEST.

Agricultural Department Will Establish One Soon.

Washington, March 1.—In the near future the department of Agriculture will locate a pure food laboratory in some Northwestern city and make it headquarters for the examination of all food products imported into that section from abroad. Investigations are now being made to determine whether it shall be located at Portland or Seattle.

Senator Bourne is urging the department to locate the laboratory in Portland, but before this can be done Portland must convince the department that its food imports exceed those of Seattle, or else offer advantages in the way of quarters that cannot be obtained at Seattle. The department desires to locate the laboratory in a public building.

It is of the greatest importance to Portland to make a creditable showing, for if the laboratory is located there rather than at Seattle, it will have a tendency to increase importations of food products at that port, where they can be properly examined, rather than at other ports where there would necessarily be delay.

Mr. Bourne is looking to the chamber of commerce to support him in his efforts.

STICKS TO HERMANN.

Former Private Secretary Says Good Things for Defendant.

Washington, March 1.—The prosecution in the trial of Representative Hermann commenced today in a futile attempt to break down the evidence given yesterday by Elliott P. Hough, former private secretary to the defendant, which was most favorable to Hermann. Hough had been put on the stand by the prosecution with the expectation that his testimony would be damaging to the defendant, and District Attorney Baker was incensed that he should give evidence so much in Hermann's favor as his statements yesterday that Hermann and John A. Benson, who is under indictment for alleged land frauds, were not good friends; that, if official letters got into Hermann's private books it was through his fault; and that it had been the custom of all outgoing commissioners previous to Hermann's time to take their private letterpress copybooks with them.

Christian H. Muller and Alexander E. Foster, who had been messengers in the land office under Hermann and who destroyed the letterpress copybooks by his incision, testified to the part they had played. Mr. Muller received an order from Hermann three weeks before the latter retired to take the letterbooks, about 35 in number, from Hermann's private room.

Beatty to Continue Duties.

Boise, Idaho, March 1.—"In answer to a telegram received from the attorney general asking me to withhold my resignation for a time," said Judge J. H. Beatty, of the United States District court, today, "I sent a telegram stating that I would willingly continue the duties of my office until after the March term. If by that time my successor has not been named, I shall probably urge the people in Washington to push matters." The telegram to Judge Beatty arrived some days after his resignation had started for Washington.

Favors Philippine Bank Bill.

Washington, March 1.—The house committee on insular affairs today decided to make a favorable report on the Philippine agricultural bank bill as passed by the senate.

IN THE NATIONAL HALLS OF CONGRESS

Friday, March 1.

Washington, March 1.—It has been years since the house was the scene of so general a battle between two great parties as took place today over the ship subsidy bill. The bill was passed, but not until it had been defeated, and this fact in itself shows how close the alignment was.

Immediately after the first ballot discussions began and on the final vote to pass the bill as amended the work done by the Republican leaders during the heat of the battle was made manifest. The bill was passed, 155 to 149.

Washington, March 1.—The denatured alcohol bill passed the senate today by a vote of 65 to 1. Pettus of Alabama cast the negative vote. This action was taken after the committee amendment requiring the presence of a government stockkeeper whenever alcohol is being manufactured had been defeated by a vote of 47 to 18. The bill as passed contains a senate amendment permitting rum to be denatured. Consequently the measure must be returned to the house for action. The bill is intended to make it possible for a farmer to establish stills of limited capacity for the manufacture of alcohol to be denatured.

Thursday, February 28.

Washington, Feb. 28.—The senate today passed without division the bill extending government aid to the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition to be held in Seattle in 1909 and debated for several hours the denatured alcohol bill, reaching no conclusion on the latter measure. The conference report on the army appropriation bill was presented and by the senate's reading on the point in controversy—its provision for the retirement of paymasters' clerks—a complete agreement between the two houses resulted.

Washington, Feb. 28.—General debate on the ship subsidy bill in the house terminated at 2:15 p. m. today, whereupon the bill was read under the five-minute rule for amendments. From that time until the recess at 6 o'clock amendments were offered and the discussion proceeded thereon. The leaders on both sides were drawn into the debate.

By a vote of 112 to 127 the house defeated an amendment offered by Littauer excepting the Sierra, the Sonoma and the Ventura, of the Oceanic line, from the operation of the provision empowering the postmaster general to make contracts with citizens of the United States for carrying the mails on steamships. This was regarded as a test vote in relation to the Pacific line.

Wednesday, February 27.

Washington, Feb. 27.—After listening to an argument by Patterson of Colorado in favor of government ownership of railroads, the senate today agreed to the conference report on the river and harbor bill. Protests were made against the reduction from \$650,000 to \$250,000 of the amount for improvements in the Mississippi river between Cairo and St. Louis by Hopkins, Cullom, Stone, Allison and Overman. The smaller amount prevailed.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Humphrey of Washington held the center of the stage for a considerable time today during the debate in the house on the ship subsidy bill. He had a hot exchange of compliments with Sullivan of Massachusetts about the attitude of the Democrats on the Japanese controversy.

He said that would not vote to report any bill that would not provide that the flag shall go to the Philippines. He charged the Democratic party with trying to keep this country from holding communication with the Philippines "in order to bring disgrace upon our administration of those islands. They hope to inveigle us into a war with Japan, to make us so weak that Japan will attack us, and then they hope to ride into power over their country's disgrace," he said.

Tuesday, February 26.

Washington, Feb. 26.—The senate today passed the sundry civil appropriation bill carrying \$114,578,861, an increase of over \$10,000,000 as compared with the house bill. It also passed the Aldrich currency bill by a vote of 43 to 14.

The currency bill authorizes the issuance of \$10 gold certificates, to the end that the \$10 greenbacks may be broken up into \$1, \$2 and \$5 bills, for which

Agree on Appeal Bill.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The conference report on the bill regulating appeals in criminal prosecutions to permit appeals by the government, as adopted by the senate today, allows writs of error within 30 days on behalf of the United States in the District courts direct to the Supreme court of the United States on all criminal decisions on demurrers to indictments or arrestings of a judgment of conviction for insufficiency of the indictment, where decisions are based on the invalidity or construction of the statutes.

there is a great demand. It also authorizes the deposit of customs receipts in national banks, as internal revenue receipts are now deposited. It raises from \$3,000,000 to \$9,000,000 the national bank circulation that may be retired in any one month.

Washington, Feb. 26.—General debate on the ship subsidy bill continued throughout the day in the house. The rule limiting the general debate to five hours was by unanimous consent amended so that general debate shall run through tomorrow, with a night session from 8 o'clock until 11 o'clock, when the debate will terminate. Mr. Grosvener was the principal champion of the bill.

The conference reports on the fortifications and the customs revenue cutter bills were adopted. The conference reports on the army and river and harbor appropriation bills were presented.

Monday, February 25.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The senate today passed the agricultural appropriation bill, carrying nearly \$10,000,000, with an amendment providing that forest reserves in certain Western states shall not be created or enlarged without an act of congress, the post-office appropriation bill, carrying \$270,000,000, the pension appropriation bill, carrying \$145,000,000, and the bill authorizing the establishment of an agricultural bank in the Philippines.

By a vote of 43 to 19 the senate tonight ratified the Santo Domingo treaty. This was one more vote in the affirmative than was required.

Washington, Feb. 25.—Ship subsidy secured a marked impetus today in the house, which, just before adjournment, adopted a rule that will probably insure the passage of the Littauer substitute for the senate bill and result before the final adjournment in positive legislation.

The rule was reported by Dalzell in the shape of a resolution providing that the compromise bill shall be considered, with debate limited to five hours, and that the final vote shall be taken not later than next Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The rule was adopted by a vote of 158 to 122, 24 Republicans voting with the Democrats in opposition to the rule.

The conference report on the Indian appropriation bill was adopted, as was the conference report on the bill providing for the allotment and distribution of Indian tribal funds.

Saturday, February 23.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Although the senate devoted four hours to legislative matters today, nothing was accomplished except speech-making. The agricultural appropriation bill received further criticism. It is proposed that \$1,000,000 be added to the fund at the disposal of the Forest service to make up for revenue taken away from it and turned into the treasury. While this amendment probably is to be accepted, Heyburn will not permit to receive final action until he has exhausted every legitimate means of opposition.

Washington, Feb. 23.—The house adopted an amendment to the sundry civil bill providing that no bar or canteen where intoxicating liquors are sold shall be maintained in National soldiers' homes. In view of the campaign throughout the country against the canteen in soldiers' homes, intense interest was shown when that feature of the bill was reported.

Four hundred thousand dollars was added to the appropriation for the geological survey. The sundry civil appropriation, the largest in the history of the government, carrying \$195,000,000, was passed.

Retain Foreclosures Ten Years.

Washington, Feb. 26.—The Lodge agricultural Philippine bank bill, as passed by the senate, contains an amendment suggested by Culberson requiring that the bank may not hold lands which it has acquired on mortgage foreclosure longer than ten years.

Telephone for Lifesavers.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Senator Fulton has secured the adoption of an amendment to the sundry civil bill appropriating \$5,000 for a telephone line from the Umpqua lifesaving station to the mouth of the Siuslaw river, also \$20,000 for rebuilding the lighthouse at Cape Arago.

Beatty Will Hold Over.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Judge Beatty, of Idaho, has been requested to remain on the bench to hold the March term of court, which means that his resignation will not be accepted until after congress adjourns. It is understood that this arrangement is made so that the president, in making the selection of a new judge, may have the views not only of Senator Heyburn, but of Senator Borah. No recommendation one properly be filed until Judge Beatty's resignation has been accepted. The president wants to get the right man.

LET NO CONTRACT.

President Decides to Let Army Engineers Dig Canal.

Washington, Feb. 27.—By an order addressed to Chairman Shonts of the Isthmian Canal commission today, President Roosevelt, as far as lay in his power under existing law, transferred to the engineer branch of the army the responsibility for the further construction of the Panama canal. He also formally recorded the abandonment, for the present at least, of the project of having the canal work done by contract on the percentage system. Another feature was the announcement of the resignation of John F. Stevens as engineer in chief of canal construction. Mr. Shonts is in New York, where he will tomorrow preside at a meeting of the directors of the Panama Railroad company, of which he is president, and will formally resign that office.

The president intends that there shall be an entire reorganization of the commission with three army officers of the engineer corps as its leading members, who are to have charge of the engineering features of the canal work. The chairman and engineer in chief of the commission will be Major G. W. Goethals. His associates will be Major Dobb, Gallard and Major William L. Siebert, to rank in the order named. These officers are all comparatively young, ambitious and energetic.

Senator Joseph S. C. Blackburn, of Kentucky, who will retire from the United States senate on March 4, is to be made a member of the reorganized commission.

HELPED LAND THIEVES.

Informant About Frauds Betrayed by Hermann.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Interest in the trial of Representative Hermann was revived today by the introduction in evidence of letters written him in 1901 by Benjamin T. May of La Grande, calling his attention to specific land frauds in Oregon and a later letter criticizing Hermann for omitting to make an investigation of the alleged frauds, and also for having made known to interested parties the name of the informant.

After their identification by May, the letters were read to the jury. The first was from May to Hermann and informed him that small owners were securing title to public land in the Blue mountains by fraud. Their plan was to get an employe to file on a certain tract and, when the claim was proved up, the employe was to deed the property over to them and receive \$50 for his work. One firm kept a man employed to look out for the best timber land and to secure it in this manner for his firm. In the year preceding the writing of this letter May charged that this firm had placed on record about 60 deeds secured in this manner. May concluded his letter with the statement that he was a poor laborer and had no ax to grind and only desired to keep out land grabbers.

HARRIMAN EXPLAINS.

Tells Interstate Commerce Commission a Few Things.

New York, Feb. 27.—An assertion by E. H. Harriman that Stuyvesant Fish was deposed from the presidency of the Illinois Central because of misconduct as to the funds of the company was a leading feature of today's session of the Interstate Commerce commission. Mr. Harriman was the only witness of the day, the events brought out by his testimony making the hearing a memorable one.

Other features of Mr. Harriman's testimony follow:

A continued refusal to answer questions relating to individual stock transactions.

Explanation of the transfer of 300,000 shares of Southern Pacific stock to William G. Rockefeller during the attempt of James R. Keene to secure control of the road and of the delayed announcement of the dividends on Union Pacific and Southern Pacific.

Attempts of the government to show that the Union Pacific charges unfair rates, stifles competition in the vast territory traversed by its lines and its dividend of 10 per cent and its expenditure of \$240,000,000 on betterments came from an unfair toll on its patrons.

Miners Vote for Advance.

Butte, Mont., Feb. 27.—The vote of the Miners' union on the increase of wage scale resulted 2,349 in favor and 1,068 against, the new scale of \$4 to take effect May 1. Many miners did not vote. The mines of Butte will continue in operation, notwithstanding the demand, but development work in all of the Amalgamated properties will cease. Officers of the union are emphatic, however, that there will be no strike. Companies will devote all time and energy to taking out ore and making copper.

Two-cent Fare is Law in Indiana.

Indianapolis, Feb. 27.—The governor today signed the 2-cent railroad fare act. It has no emergency clause, and goes into effect with the publication of the new laws about May or June.

ALL BUT ONE SAVED

Steamer Corona Goes on Rocks Off Eureka, California.

VESSEL IS A HOPELESS WRECK

High Sea Running and Life-savers Have Hard Task to Reach Doomed Ship.

Eureka, March 2.—The steamer Corona, Captain Boyd, considered the best boat in the Pacific Coast steamship company's service between this city and San Francisco, lies straddling the north jetty on the Humboldt bar, a hopeless wreck. The Corona, with nearly 100 passengers aboard, struck at 10:10 o'clock yesterday morning, as Captain Boyd was attempting, in the teeth of a stinging wind and a terrific bar flood, to drive her into port.

The usual scenes attendant upon a shipwreck followed. The passengers rushed into the social hall. Some of the women were hysterical and some of the men were pained with fear, but reassuring words from the crew and some of the calmer passengers brought calm. Thereafter the passengers assembled upon the hurricane deck, where they remained until the rescue work was undertaken in the afternoon.

Soon after the ship struck, a boat, in charge of Quartermaster Gunn, was lowered away. It contained three of the crew and three steering passengers. This boat capsized at once in the tolling surf and H. Erickson, a Swede, was drowned. Gunn and the others succeeded in reaching shore, the lifesaving crew under Captain Hennig having come to their assistance.

A second boat, in charge of Second Officer B. V. Joann, was put off.

Badly battered and leaking like a sieve, this boat reached the shore. Meanwhile, T. F. Sothers, night saloon watchman, formerly a marine in the United States navy, stripped to the waist and attempted to carry a line ashore. The small line he had tied about his waist parted, however, before he had gone far. Sothers was picked up by the life-savers. Several attempts were made to shoot a line aboard with the Lyle gun, but each time the line fell far short.

Finally it was decided by Captain Hennig and the life-savers to go out in the billows, and they made as silent a voyage as ever men undertook, finally reaching the side of the Corona and picking up the line.

Within a short time after the Corona struck, news of the accident was communicated to Eureka and several thousand people during the day went to the beach opposite the wreck to watch the work of rescue. Several unsuccessful attempts were made to work early in the day, but it was not until 4:50 o'clock in the afternoon that Captain Hennig and his men worked effectively.

SAYS SENATE WAS BOUGHT.

Story About Cause of Spanish War Excites Span.

Madrid, March 2.—A sensation has been caused here by the publication of a story credited to the Diario de Marina, of Havana, which purports to show by documentary evidence that the United States congress was bought in 1897 by Tomas Estrada Palma to insure war being declared against Spain. According to the Havana newspaper, bonds in the value of \$37,000,000, redeemable when Cuba should become independent, were issued in Washington to senators and a contract exists which contains phrasology like that of the joint resolution of April, 1888, voted by congress. The article says further that the value of the bonds fell heavily in 1899, and therefore a new contract was made between Palma and the American senators. Count Salazar, minister of foreign affairs, has telegraphed to the Spanish representative at Washington for the fullest information.

Japanese Cruisers for Jamestown.

Yokohama, March 2.—The Japanese cruisers Tsukuba and Chitose left at 11 o'clock this morning for Jamestown, Va. Naval Minister Vice Admiral Saito, Admirals Toyo, Ito, Inoye, the naval attaché at the American embassy, Consul General Miller and local Japanese officials were present upon the occasion. The emperor and crown prince sent special aides de camp with a farewell message to Admiral Ijima on the flagship Tsukuba. The pier, which was decorated, was lined with an interested but undemonstrative crowd.

New Treaty Causes Uproar.

St. Thomas, D. W. I., March 2.—There is intense excitement in Santo Domingo regarding the new American-Dominican treaty. The ministers demand the withdrawal of Senator Velazquez' portfolio or that the president accept their resignations.