

TELEGRAM ACCUSED OF CRIMINAL LIBEL

Governor West Resents Statements Made in Big Portland Paper.

AND HE WILL BRING SUIT

He Instructed Attorney-General to Investigate and Bring Suit to Recover Misused Funds.

Governor West announced today that suit for criminal libel would be instituted against the Portland Telegram for articles published as to the disposition of prison funds...

The following is Governor West's letter to Attorney-General Crawford:

Letter to Attorney-General. "There have appeared from time to time in the columns of the press, particularly in the Portland Oregonian and the Telegram, articles in which it was charged that moneys growing out of the earnings of the state prison brick yard during the year 1911 had not been paid to the state treasurer, as by law required, but had been unlawfully expended."

"In view of the seriousness of the above charges you are hereby directed to investigate the same and bring such suits as may be necessary to recover to the state any and all said funds unlawfully expended, or not properly accounted for."

"I take it that the management of the two papers above mentioned have in their possession such evidence as, in their opinion, would justify the publication of such charges, and that the same will be placed at your disposal upon request."

"If this office can be of any service to you in the matter, please command us."

Governor Denounces Charges.

"The libelous articles have done me irreparable injury in the state," said Governor West today. "The charge has been repeatedly made that the prison funds were dissipated and that I am responsible. I have never handled a dollar of prison funds, and the statements are false for the further reason that when I took the office of governor there was \$1,006 in the revolving fund, and January 1, 1913, there was \$4,616.95 in it. This was acknowledged by the legislature and is a fact easily ascertained. If the state treasurer has paid out any funds without authority, it will be up to him to explain. Every dollar received at the prison was turned over to him."

The Telegram article of last Tuesday again charged that the governor squandered the funds, and that Kay and Ocott of the board were obliged to shut down the prison brickyard last fall because there was insufficient money on hand to finance it.

Especially Libelous.

An article considered especially libelous appeared on March 25 when the Telegram asserted that the state could recover funds from Governor West through civil action and that he was criminally responsible. It declared that in an effort to bolster up his prison reform policy the governor had overstepped the law and that the state was loser by thousands of dollars.

The records of the prison board show that a resolution was passed at the meeting of October 12, providing that the brickyard plant should be shut down, and that it was introduced by Governor West and supported by himself, Treasurer Key and Secretary of State Ottott.

Another Libelous Article.

January 29 the Telegram told of "tampering which is alleged to have depleted the prison funds in an unsavory bribe-deal." It printed several other articles along the same line.

The Oregonian of Wednesday morning contained practically the same article as that appearing in the Telegram of Tuesday. The Oregonian has been more careful about keeping within the libel law.

The governor's attorneys are preparing the papers in the suit, and will file them soon.

THE ANTI-TIPPING LAW

State Capitol, Sacramento, Cal., May 8.—"The inalienable right of the American citizen to tip," as Assemblyman Walter McDonald said just it, was decisively abrogated as far as the California lower house is concerned today when the Judson anti-tipping bill was denied reconsideration.

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OPPOSITE VIEWS ON THE NEW TARIFF LAW

Leader Underwood of the Democrats Says It Will Reduce Cost of Living

PARTY KEPT ITS PLEDGE

Sereno Payne Gives Vent to the Old Wall About Poor, Unprotected Workmen.

Washington, May 8.—The views of two big party leaders in the house on the Democratic tariff, which will be adopted this afternoon, in practically the same form as drafted by the house ways and means committee, were given to the United Press here this afternoon. They follow:

SUFFRAGETTES WEAK FROM STARVATION

You Can Lead a Horse to Water, But Can't Make a Woman Eat.

London, May 8.—The breakdown in the court room of "General" Mrs. Flora Drummond from weakness today caused a halt in the trial here of militant suffragettes charged with disturbing the peace. The proceedings were continued to May 13. All the suffragettes, except Edward Clayton, the "male suffragette," were released on \$500 bail.

BEGIN THE HEARING OF GRAFT CHARGES

San Francisco Police Commission Has Detective Sergeant Esola on the Carpet.

San Francisco, May 8.—With the full board assembled, the San Francisco police commission today began the hearing of Frank Esola, former detective sergeant, who is the first of eight suspended police indicted for alleged complicity in the operation of an Italian bunco ring, to stand trial before the police body.

MURDERED HER BABIES

Philadelphia, May 8.—Slashing their throats while they were asleep, Mrs. Mary Kalasa today murdered her two little daughters, Blanche, aged 22 months, and Agnes, aged three months. The woman is believed to be demented.

ELECTRIC COMPANY PUTS UP BOLD FRONT

Says Strikers' Places Were Easily Filled and the Public Need Not Worry.

3000 HAVE WALKED OUT

Strikers Say the Company's Business Will Soon Be Paralyzed as Result of the Strike.

San Francisco, May 8.—Paralysis of the electrical and gas power of the Pacific Gas and Electric company throughout northern and central California will be the ultimate result of the walkout of 3000 of its employees, according to declarations here today of union officials. Although officials of the corporation assert that only 834 men obeyed the strike order, the union men say the walkout is complete.

BE THERE AND HELP FORM THE NEW CLUB

either in the city or adjacent country, can make the stranger feel at home, and provide a place where he may freely enter and amuse himself, talk business or gather information, just when he pleases. It is the intention to have the membership open to all, at a merely nominal fee, or some plan of that kind, the details of which will, no doubt, be explained at the meeting. There is undoubtedly not only room but need of such an organization. It will not take the place of, nor will it interfere with the Ilihee club, but will prove an important adjunct to it, filling a place now vacant and bringing into action a new and vigorous element that will make its work in behalf of the city evident from the start. Salem can't have too many boosters, nor too many kinds, and the proposed commercial club will add to the number many who, for various reasons, have heretofore not been connected with any of the civic bodies.

Weather Forecast

Oregon—Showers tonight and Friday. Southerly winds.

Great Climate

"Is this a healthy town?" "Healthy. Why, when I came here I only weighed sixty pounds. Now look at me. I tip the scales at 150."

Strike May Spread

Oakland, Cal., May 8.—Oakland street car men may be drawn into the strike of the electrical and gas workers against the Pacific Gas and Electric Company within a few days, unless the strike is settled, according to union leaders here.

Human Bones Prove To Be A Mixed Lot

Oakland, Cal., May 8.—Human bones, supposed to have come from six different persons, which caused a "murder" scare among the Oakland police when they were found here yesterday in a "mystery" house, today are still a puzzle, but the murder theory is pretty well abandoned. The police, however, are mystified as to how the bones came to be buried where they were found.

WILL STUTTER NEXT TIME AND THEN NOT SPEAK

Albany, Ore., May 8.—Because he addressed two young girls as they came out of a moving picture theatre, O. H. Chris, a railroad brakeman, began serving a 12-days sentence in the city jail. He was sentenced by Police Judge VanTassel to pay a fine of \$12 and costs, but not having the money, he was committed. One of the girls' brothers swore to the complaint.

ELNA WILL LEAVE COAST

San Francisco, May 8.—Elna Loftus, former music hall star, later wife of Harry Rheinstrom, son of a Cincinnati millionaire, later still a figure in the night life of San Francisco, is going home to England.

RECOVER DEPORTATION AS AN UNDESIRABLE ALIEN

San Francisco, May 8.—Miss Loftus has decided that she has had enough of the West, and today admitted that she will leave the country within a few days.

EVIDENCE AGAINST JOHNSON IS STRONG

Belle Schreiber Tells of Her Relations With the Big Black Prize Fighter.

LOOKS BLACK FOR JACK

Baseball Players Honor Themselves by Shaking Hands With the Big White Slave.

Chicago, May 8.—Small, pretty and neatly clad, Belle Schreiber took the stand here today and told the court trying Jack Johnson for violation of the Mann white slave act the full story of her relations with the big negro prize fighter. In an almost childish-voice the girl, through the folds of a heavy veil, detailed how she met Johnson, their subsequent relations and of the trips they made from state to state. Before the Schreiber girl was called several other government witnesses against the negro testified. Estelle Palmer, alias Henderson, said Belle Schreiber was an inmate of a Pittsburg resort where she was known as Jacques Allen. Charles Sampson testified that Johnson and the Schreiber girl came to his store in October, 1910, and that the negro bought \$1196 worth of furniture for the girl selected. Other witnesses described the character of the row of flats where the Schreiber girl lived in Chicago. Several Washington ball players were admitted to the court today, although spectators generally were excluded. They heard part of the testimony. In the corridor outside the court Johnson shook hands with several of the ball players. Before the court met today Johnson drove in his automobile to the union depot to meet several witnesses from the East. A crowd of men gathered about his machine, but there was no attempt at a demonstration against the big black.

COMPANY IS ARMING STRIKE BREAKERS

Charge Made That Men Coming From East Are Furnished With Automatic Revolvers.

Seattle, Wash., May 8.—A bulletin at the Seattle headquarters of the striking wireless operators this morning, announced that strike-breakers being imported to this coast from the East are being armed with automatic revolvers as they pass through New Orleans, presumably by representatives of the Marconi Wireless Company. This fact, together with the fact that many of the amateur operators being imported are not competent to handle the wireless apparatus on a ship at sea, will lead to an investigation of conditions by J. P. McLaughlin, state labor commissioner of California. The bulletin further stated that shipping in San Francisco is being greatly hampered on account of the wireless strike, the steamship Paraiso leaving that port three times in one day, only to discover, after getting outside the heads, that the strike-breakers had abandoned the ship before she sailed. It is reported that the waiters on the steamship Governor walked out yesterday on a sympathetic strike.

BRYAN TELLS WILSON BILL MUST BE PASSED

Also Informs President That Asiatic Aggression Must Be Permanently Checked.

Washington, May 8.—California's land bill will not menace America's peace. Japan has accepted President Wilson's action in sending Secretary of State Bryan to Sacramento in the spirit wherein the move was made. Japan resents California's action, but does not believe the American people will endorse the Webb bill. It also does not expect the measure to be enforced. This was the opinion here today of those closest in touch with the situation, when they learned that a movement was on foot in California today to delay the enforcement of the Webb bill until a new treaty with Japan, covering the main features of the measure, is negotiated.

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