

DAILY RECORD-UNION

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THE FACTS OF THE RAILROAD DEBT.

The full report of the committee of the House on the Pacific railroads and their debt and the funding bill, was published in the "Record-Union" on Saturday last.

Perhaps no public document has been filed in recent times that clears away so much of misconception and misrepresentation or that presents an important matter in a more practical business-like and sensible manner to the understanding and good sense of the people.

From the report, which is fortified by the official records of the Federal Departments of the Interior and the Treasury, it is ascertainable just what the debt of the railroads is, just what payments have been made thereon, precisely what credits are entitled to be entered for the roads, and just what are the obligations of the Government to the road, and the roads to the Government.

That these are in direct contradiction of the hysterical and mendacious statements of the anti-railroad press, and the calamity people, will be perceived from the beginning of the report to the end.

It is shown that the first mortgage bonds of the Central Pacific Railroad issued under authorization of Congress, amounted to \$27,853,000, and the subsidy bonds to \$27,853,080.

The subsidy bonds were and are subordinate to the others. It is shown that Congress from time to time provided for the repayment to the United States of principal and interest, and that all such Acts of Congress have been complied with by the Central Pacific Company, a fact which the anti-railroad people have, in the face of the records, persistently denied, and mendaciously so.

That these provisions for repayment have not sufficed to accomplish the end in view has not been due it is shown, to any failure on the part of the company. The cause is referable, say the committee, to reduction of rates, far beyond anticipation, which were to be received by the road for Government transportation, and constantly diminishing rate of interest upon the bonds in which the sums paid to the credit of the company were required by law to be invested.

It was believed that the one-half compensation for services rendered to the Government would meet the current interest, and that the reserved 5 per cent. of the net earnings would suffice for payment of the principal upon maturity.

It is pointed out that Congress originally estimated that the army, navy and postal service being annually \$7,357,781, one-half of it would very nearly pay the annual interest. But though the volume of business greatly increased, the rates were so cut down that the company actually found itself debtor to the Government instead of being able to meet the interest account.

These are significant facts which are studiously evaded and recklessly pushed aside by the enemies of the company.

As far back as 1878, say the committee, reports on the subject made this deficiency obvious. Accordingly the Thurman Act was passed, providing for the whole instead of the half of the compensation for service to be set aside, and that the amounts to be thereafter paid into the "Thurman Sinking Fund" should be 25 per cent. of the net earnings of the road.

It was believed that this would provide for meeting the debt at maturity, but it was on the assumption that the sinking fund could be invested in United States 5 per cent. bonds, to be purchased at not over 10 per cent. pre-

mium, and would, therefore, at compound interest, yield 6 per cent. on face value. The provisions of the Thurman Act have been strictly complied with by the company, say the committee, but the investment at 5 per cent. utterly failed, and Government bonds sold on nearer a 2 per cent. basis.

Thus the decline in rates and the appreciation of the Government credit both operated for the advantage of the Government and against the railroad company. Nevertheless, the Central Pacific and Union Pacific Railroad Companies, as the committee shows, have paid in sums almost equal to the aggregate of the entire lot of subsidy bonds loaned by the Government.

Government transportation, which cost the United States before the building of the Pacific roads \$7,357,781, fell, up to 1894, to \$1,753,426, though the volume of the business enormously increased; while the Thurman sinking fund, instead of yielding 6 per cent., gave comparatively only insignificant returns. The committee then proceeds to verify its statements by treasury figures, namely, the Central Pacific paid in under the law in the last eighteen years \$5,303,427, and now has in the sinking fund \$6,493,126. Adding transportation earnings, sinking fund and accretions, the Treasury Department finds that to January 1, 1897, the following will be the state of the account: Subsidy bonds (original), \$27,853,080; repayments by the company, \$18,185,458 95. On the 1st of January, 1897, the treasury estimate is that the sum due from the Central Pacific will be \$57,681,514 23, the original debt being \$27,853,080, the interest being \$48,011,293 34.

These are the facts reported by the committee, sustained by the treasury accounts, and illumined by all the Acts of Congress ever passed upon the subject. It will be seen that they are greatly at variance with the sensational and exaggerated statements in which the anti-railroad press indulges, and which forms the burden of the song of those who would have the roads seized, the first mortgage indebtedness assumed by the Government and the road operated by Federal management.

Now the committee would have the matter handled, and the reasons which move it to its conclusions are very clearly and emphatically set forth, and will be considered by themselves later on, on the basis of the undeniable fact that on the 1st of January, 1897, the repayments by the Central and the Union Pacific Companies will aggregate \$56,755,394 53, or only \$4,639,797 47 less than the amount of all the subsidy bonds of the United States advanced for the roads.

Now that the sentence of death upon the American filibusters captured in Cuba has been suspended pending investigation by our Government, it will be well to cool our ardor and consider the matter in the cold light of justice. All we are demanding is that these men shall have a trial that is fair and impartial, and that is in accordance with the existing treaty between Spain and the United States. We claim that this accords them a trial before a civil court. It may be questioned whether their chances will be any better before a civil court in Havana at this time under the influence of the arms of Spain in the hands of Weyler. If our contention is sustained, of which there may be entertained reasonable doubt, then comes the place of trial. We will probably contend that there should be removal of the cause from Havana. If not, the fate of the men is sealed beyond question unless we challenge the impartiality of the trial. Finally, we have to consider the question whether in our own estimation the men are guilty after we shall have ascertained the actual facts. Suppose it turns out that these people were taken in arms? What can we say to the world in defense of a demand that they be spared? The laws which under similar circumstances we would ourselves invoke, will demand the punishment of those who invaded a country with which we are at peace with intent to wage war upon it. But such of the men as went into Cuba by compulsion, such as were on peaceful mission, we should demand be released. Unless, then, it is clearly indisputably established that such of these men as are American were invading Cuba with warlike intent, the United States will demand they be discharged. That ascertainment is to be reached, we contend, only through civil proceedings. Really, there is much truth in the statement in one of yesterday's dispatches that what angers the American people is the method employed in reaching judgment, rather than the judgment itself, since in all but two cases it is very likely to turn out that the men were really filibusters, warring against a nation with which we are on peaceful terms.

The Nevada City "Evening Herald" has just entered upon its thirty-seventh volume and its eighteenth year. We congratulate it on its age, value and public usefulness. It is not a sensational paper, but better, it is a sensible, practical, cool-headed and thinking influence in its community.

The Yreka "Union" has just entered upon its forty-fourth year and volume. The journal is a strong Democratic paper, an energetic friend of the north of the State, a newsy, well-conducted journal and at all times a clean paper.

The "Mountain Messenger," published weekly at Downieville, on the 9th instant attained its forty-second year. A long time for a country paper in California, which is so young a State. The "Messenger" is one of the good old stand-bys. Faithful, reliable, careful in statement, usually sound in judgment, devoted to local interests, a staunch champion of Sierra County, a friend of the mining interests, and a respected exchange with this office since the day of its birth.

The "Record-Union" yesterday complained in the name of the people against bicycle scorching in the public streets. In that protest, we are told, we have the cordial indorsement of the organized wheelmen of the city. That is gratifying. Now then, let the officials see that the law is enforced, since no one is asking that they close their eyes—though that should make no difference

to them were it true. Now then, also, let other classes of scorchers be looked after, namely the men and women who drive horses through the streets at rates of speed in excess of the schedule of the ordinance. Carts, hacks, buggies and carriages are whirled through J. K. and other streets at dangerously high rates of speed, and rarely indeed does a driver pay any attention to the pedestrian on the crossing. It is to be said for the bicyclist that he can change his direction almost instantly, and avoid collisions even at highest rates of speed if he is wide awake and careful. But these fast drivers cannot change direction easily. They and their vehicles cover much space, their animals are not always easily controlled, they are not likely to take harm by collision, and therefore they are more dangerous to pedestrians than are the wheelmen. Let the law be enforced against both classes, however. Speeding in the streets should stop and at once. A gentleman from a southern city now in attendance at the convention in session here, yesterday spoke to us with great surprise upon the rapid driving permitted in our streets and which had attracted his attention. He declared that it is "more than surprising in a stranger's eyes," but that probably "Sacramentans have become accustomed to it, as they have to their muddy drinking water." Is there not in this remark a good deal of suggestion for us in several other directions?

THE WEATHER AND CROPS. No Change in the Latter During the Past Week. The following synopsis of the weather and crop conditions, during the week ending Monday, May 11th, is issued by the State Agricultural Society in cooperation with the United States Climate and Crop Service, James A. Barwick of this city Section Director.

The average temperature for the week ending Monday, May 11th, was as follows for the Weather Bureau Stations named: Eureka 48 degrees, Fresno 58, Los Angeles 56, Red Bluff 54, Sacramento 54, San Francisco 52 and San Diego 56.

As compared with the normal temperatures there is shown heat deficiencies ranging from 5 to 12 degrees, as follows: Eureka 5 degrees, Fresno 8, Los Angeles 7, Red Bluff 12, Sacramento 9, San Francisco 6, and San Diego 5.

The total precipitation for the week was: For Eureka 1.60 inches, Fresno, a trace, Los Angeles .30 of an inch, Red Bluff .80 of an inch, Sacramento .17 of an inch, San Francisco .30 of an inch, and San Diego a trace.

As compared with the normal precipitation there was an excess shown at Eureka, Los Angeles, Red Bluff and San Francisco, while deficiencies were reported from Fresno, Sacramento and San Diego.

The hail storm of Tuesday, the 5th, in various portions of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys did some damage by knocking fruit from the trees.

The cool, cloudy and showery weather of the week has been good for grain, grass and pastures, but detrimental to haying and also to the fruit crop. The rains are especially damaging to the ripening of cherries as they absorb the moisture, which softens the skins, causing them to break or crack open, and therefore to be worthless for shipping.

Haying is very backward, but it has begun in various parts of the State. There is very great need at present of lots of clear, sunny and warm weather to bring forward the fruit and berry crops.

The fruit is reported to be dropping badly for want of sunshine. The vineyards that were so badly frosted in April have begun to put forth new leaves and buds for the second crop.

The week's climatic features have therefore been favorable for grain, grass and pastures, but very unfavorable for fruits, berries and for haying.

Notaries Public. Governor Budd has appointed the following Notaries Public: N. T. Clotfelter, Visalia; E. T. Cooper, Tulare; Harriet M. Taylor, Oakland; Edward Freitenbacher, Stockton; A. J. Bruner, Sacramento; J. R. Saunders, Guadalupe.

After the grip, typhoid fever, diphtheria or other prostrating diseases, nothing builds up the strength and restores full health like Hood's Sarsaparilla. It sharpens the appetite.

All Records Surpassed. The largest assortment of Straw Hats ever held in Sacramento by a single firm is now ours. Straw Hats at all prices; a splendid, stylish straw for 75c—good for one season; better hats for more money.

FRED TROUT, 802 J STREET, 45c Quality Cut to 25c Each.

Land Patents. Governor Budd has received from the General Land Office at Washington, land patents as follows, and has transmitted them to the Surveyor-General: No. 60, embracing lands subject to sale at Los Angeles; No. 61, embracing lands at Marysville; No. 62, embracing lands at Sacramento; No. 63, embracing lands at San Francisco; No. 64, embracing lands at Stockton; and No. 65, embracing lands at Visalia, aggregating in all 4,733.89 acres.

Disastrous Failure. Financial convulsions which disturb the equilibrium of the business world are productive of far less mischief than the failure of the kidneys to perform the office assigned to them by nature. When these organs become inactive the circulation acquires impurities which bring on dropsy, diabetes, Bright's disease, gravel, catarrh of the bladder and other maladies. To impart to the kidneys and bladder a healthy impetus, very different from the excitement produced by an unmedicated alcoholic stimulant, use Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, the finest diuretic in existence. This excellent remedy for inactivity of the kidneys is also of the greatest service in malarial, dyspeptic, bilious and rheumatic troubles, and has received the unequalled sanction of eminent physicians. The nervous, the elderly and infirm and convalescents derive unexpressed benefit from its use. It is used with persistence and at fixed intervals, and anticipate with confidence the happiest results.

WAS WELL IRONED. A Santa Clara Prisoner Taken to Folsom Yesterday. Sheriff J. H. Lyndon of Santa Clara arrived here yesterday with a prisoner named George Miller, whom he took to the Folsom Prison in the afternoon to serve a sentence of twelve years for assault to murder.

Sheriff Lyndon evidently did not intend to give his prisoner a chance to lead him a race over the fields for his side being handcuffed Miller wore an "Oregon boot," an iron bracelet weighing many pounds, riveted about one of his ankles.

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New Citizen. In Judge Johnson's court yesterday James Rutherford, a native of Ireland, was admitted to citizenship.

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MAKE HIM WEAR. 'Twill do him Lots of good And give you A BETTER HUSBAND. White Elkus OPP. PLAZA & GENT.

A PIANO CASE. Judgment for A. J. Pommer Against Sumner B. Waite. A. J. Pommer obtained judgment in Judge Johnson's court yesterday against Sumner B. Waite for \$400 and costs.

Suit was brought for the former sum as the price of a piano sold to Waite. The plaintiff put in testimony to the effect that Waite agreed to pay that figure for the instrument and had it sent to his house. At that time he resided here, but since removed to San Francisco.

Waite testified that after he had talked with Pommer about buying a piano the latter sent the instrument to his house for trial and approval; that he notified Pommer he did not want it, and demanded that it be removed; that this was not done, and he stored it, charging Pommer with the storage.

Judge Johnson found that the preponderance of testimony was in favor of the allegations of the plaintiff, and of the allegations of the plaintiff, and

Babies' and children's photos a specialty. Cutbirth, new studio, 13th & K.

Reliable Goods. Tuft's Drug Store, CORNER J and Tenth Sts. PROMPT SERVICE DAY OR NIGHT. New Store. STONE, The Tailor, has moved to the northwest corner of Fifth and K streets and is making a specialty of the best \$15 custom-made suit in town.

Dr. Sanden's Electric Belt. THERE IS NOT ONE AS GOOD: NONE AS strong in electricity-giving power, none as durable, and none that have the patented regulator, which is a necessary part of the Dr. Sanden Electric Belt. A regulator, to allow the patient to control the electric current is an absolute necessity to every electric belt. Ask any one who has used the old style belts, and you will learn that a regulator is a very important feature.

This is only one of the reasons why Dr. Sanden's Electric Belt is the best. Another is the great number of cures it has made. Cure—that is the thing you want after all—not talk.

What cures others should cure you. "Three Classes of Men," with full information and price list, is free; get it.

SANDEN ELECTRIC CO., 625 Market St., opposite Palace Hotel, San Francisco, Cal. Office hours, 8 a. m. to 8:30 p. m.; Sundays, 10 to 1. Los Angeles Office, 204 So. Broadway; Portland Office, 255 Washington st.

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GOOD STYLE AND GOOD SERVICE

To get both in a made-to-order suit you pay the custom tailor a good, round price, don't you? Probably enough to buy two of our best ready-made, with not a penny extra to pay to secure a made-to-order fit, as we make all necessary alterations to give you that free. Here you can try on the made up garments and secure the cloth and cut you know to be becoming—an advantage no custom tailor can offer you. When you come to know all the merits of our rightly-made, ready-to-wear clothing you'll be gainers as well as we. Tall or short, slim or stout, we've clothes to exactly meet your wants at prices that will leave your purse heavier—by dollars and dollars saved—than the tailors' prices would be. Clothing critics tell us we've a right to be proud of the lines we're showing at \$10 a suit up to \$22 50.

SPECIAL TO-DAY. SPECIAL TO-MORROW. SPECIAL FRIDAY. SPECIAL SATURDAY. Apron Fine, Strongly Woven Gingham, a very good assortment of patterns. Special To-day, 5c Yard. Muslin Ladies' Good White Muslin Skirts, with deep flounce. Were designed and made at one of the best muslin wear factories in America to sell at 75c each. Special To-day, 49c Each. Ladies' A small lot of Ladies' Black and Tan Kid Juliette Shoes, with elastic going at sides; very fine for house or summer street wear; worth \$1 75 and \$2. Special To-day, \$1 15 Pair. Overshirts. Men's and Boys' Good Quality Domet Flannel Overshirts, full cut and well made; a complete line of sizes that are regular 50c values. Special To-day, 25c Each. Boxed 24 sheets of Good Paper, and two bunches Papeterie, of Envelopes, put up in neat boxes, the regular price of which would be about double. Special To-day, 5c Box. Tablets. Good, Large Pencil Tablets, with ruled paper and fine lithographed cover. They are actually worth a half more than sale price. Special To-day, 5c Each. Misses' Mothers of girls 4 to 14 years old are reaping a harvest of savings and avoiding the work and worry of home sewing by fitting out the little ones in these pretty and stylish Percale Dresses. Worth \$2 50 and \$3 50. Reduced to \$1 50 Each. Window Two lots of odd Window Shades, made of heavy opaque cloth. There are only two or three of a color. 90c Quality Cut to 35c Each. 45c Quality Cut to 25c Each. White One lot of White Striped Lawns, effects. To-morrow's price is greatly under actual value. Special at 7c Yard. White A mixed lot of White Fancy Laces, Trimmings. All good patterns that have been marked 84c and 10c a yard. Special To-morrow, 5c Yard. Boys' Boys' Corduroy or Bicycle Hose in a heavy Hosiery, black rib, fast dye and durable; sizes 6 to 10. Value, 25c a pair. Special To-morrow, 15c Pair. Misses' A mixed lot of Misses' Fine Kid Seamless Foxed Button Shoes; some kid tops, some cloth, and all have patent tips. You never saw their equal regular under \$3 a pair. Special To-morrow, \$1 95 Pair. Men's Men's Ribbed Cotton Underwear, and Drawers in medium weight and well finished. By rights they are worth double. Special To-morrow, 75c Suit. Coin Medium Size Coin Purses, with inside pocket and strong frame. Actual value, 20c each. Special To-morrow, 10c Each. Boys' Parents of boys 4 to 14 years old can save one-half more on clothing in the next three days. We have picked out what remains of five or six lines of Boys' Double-breasted Suits, mostly in dark colors, worth \$4, \$4 50 and \$5, and marked them To Close at \$1 65 a Suit. Damask Nice, Heavy Damask Towels, with knotted fringe. Note the size, 15x33 inches. Your pick of plain white or colored borders. They retail regular at 15c each. Friday at 10c Each. Windsor Ladies' Silk Windsor Ties, in a very large variety of patterns and colors. Values you'd never expect under 20c each. Friday's Price, 10c Each. Men's A mixed lot of Men's Heavy Buckle Working Shoes, with dustproof tongue and double soles. Made of good, solid leather throughout. They're regular \$1 75 and \$2 values. Special Friday, \$1 15 Pair. Suspenders. Men's Wire Buckle Suspenders of fancy webbing, with strong grip back. Worth fully double. Friday's Price, 9c Pair. Counter This lot of Manila Paper Books, Counter Books, have strong press-board covers and are well made. Regular price, 5c each. Friday, 3 for 10c. 21c a Yard And saved to you if you profit by the Cheviot Dress Goods offering placed on sale at the commencement of the week. They are in pretty two-tone mixtures, all wool and 36 inches wide. No telling when another such chance may come your way, and they're selling fast. Regular price, 50c a yard. Special Price, 29c. Sheeting. This is an offering for those who believe in home-making. 4-4 Bleached Sheet, full 72 inches wide, good, standard make. Worth every penny of 20c a yard. Special Saturday, 14c Yard. Table Full-bleached Damask Table Covers, made of pure linen, with pretty colored border; size 56x64 inches. Value, \$1 each. Saturday's Price, 69c. Children's Children's Fino Ribbed Fast Black Hosiery. Cotton Hose in medium weight and they're seamless. Come in sizes 6 to 9, and are worth fully 16c a pair. Saturday's Price, 9c Pair. Ladies' Ladies' White Muslin Nightgowns, good material, well put together. They have Y-shape yoke, prettily trimmed with embroidery and are remarkable good values. Saturday's Price, 42c Each. Infants' Infants' Fancy Short Cloaks, checked designs. Very pretty and made up in latest styles. Would be good value at \$1 25. Special Saturday, 75c Each. Ladies' A small lot of Ladies' Kid Shoes, Foxed Button Shoes with black cloth tops and patent tips. Well made and very durable. Worth \$2 50 regular. Special Saturday, \$1 75 Pair. Men's Men's Black Satine Overshirts in neat white hair-line stripes and polka dots; cut good, full size in body and well made. Would be cheap at 50c each. Special Saturday, 29c Each. Clocks. Nickel Alarm Clocks, every one a good timepiece, and fully worth 85c each. Special Saturday, 58c Each.

HALE BROS. & CO., 825 to 835 K St.