

BIXBY PREPARES WATERWAY REPORT

Channel Twenty to Twenty-Five Feet Deep Between Cairo and New Orleans is Being Urged.

PROJECT IS ENDORSED

Engineer Board in Session in St. Louis Drawing Up Its Findings—Burton as a Pull-back.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—Although there seems to be an effort on the part of government officials who know the facts to keep them from the public, it is learned that the engineer board having in charge the preparation of a special report and survey on the feasibility and practicability of the portion of the lakes-to-the-gulf 14-foot channel between Cairo and New Orleans has been in session in St. Louis for several days preparing its report. From a reliable source of information it is understood here that the board will not only thoroughly approve the lakes-to-the-gulf waterway, but will go further and recommend that as a measure of economy the channel be made twenty or even twenty-five feet in depth. The lack of this report has greatly handicapped those who are pushing the project here, as a survey and recommendation for only that portion from Chicago to St. Louis is now in the possession of the government.

Burton Holds Back Report.

In October, 1908, Col. W. H. Bixby, president of the Mississippi river commission, who is chairman of the fourteen foot engineer board, made a preliminary report upon the progress of the work. This included surveying to determine the feasibility of the waterway between St. Louis and New Orleans. This was forwarded here to Washington to Gen. William L. Marshall, head of the engineer corps of the army, with an explanation that if nothing unexpected occurred, the final report would be sent here in January of this year. Again, in November of last year Colonel Bixby reasserted the ability of the board to complete its work by this month. When the advocates of the lakes-to-the-gulf waterway came here in December to attend the national rivers and harbors congress they knew of these two statements by Colonel Bixby. Whenever they were faced with the suggestion that they would have to await the report of the board before they could hope for legislation they unhesitatingly said that the report would be forthcoming this month.

Representative Theodore E. Burton, chairman of the rivers and harbors committee, heard of these assertions. He sent for Colonel Bixby to come to Washington. Mr. Burton was among those put forward by congress leaders to prevent river and harbor legislation. He is now senator-elect from Ohio and his influence is feared or sought by nearly every member of the engineer corps. He talked with Colonel Bixby and immediately thereafter the colonel experienced a sudden change of opinion as to when the final report of his board could be made.

SENATORIAL DEADLOCK STILL CONTINUES

Probability That the Illinois Legislature Will Not Elect For Several Weeks.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 1.—Senatorial balloting will be resumed by the legislature tomorrow although the deadlock may continue several weeks, if not months. All efforts on the part of the Cook county delegation to drive the members into line have failed. Politicians now believe the deadlock will continue until after the inauguration of Taft. There is a growing disposition to learn Taft's desire in the senatorial matter. In this case balloting will continue but the assembly will take up its regular duties.

The contest for the governorship was taken up this week and concerted action in joint assembly will not be attempted. Shurtle ruled this question can't be taken up while the two houses are in session to vote on a senator. Consequently a special joint session will be necessary before the contest. Such a session is impossible. It will necessitate a contest committee to be appointed by each house.

Montreal Has an Earthquake. MONTREAL, Feb. 1.—A series of slight earthquakes shook this city this morning. They were not severe and no casualties were reported.

KEIRAN TELLS OF OPERATIONS

Head of the Fidelity Funding Co. Explains the Workings of the Company Before the Bankruptcy Court.

HOW LOANS WERE MADE

Had Members of Catholic Congregations Take Out Life Insurance Policies and Same Turned Over to Fidelity.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—Revealing the operations of the Fidelity Funding Company, which recently failed for five million, as the big channel through which passed a flood of business for two life insurance companies, Patrick Keiran, head of the concern, resumed his testimony before the referee in bankruptcy before Olney today. Keiran explained the Fidelity's business was lending money largely to Catholic churches and institutions. When an application for a loan was made the Fidelity, besides taking a mortgage on church property, according to Keiran, required members of the congregation to take out a twenty year endowment of insurance to the amount of 75 per cent of the loan, the policies being turned over to the Fidelity to further protect the loan.

The Fidelity charged 3 to 3 1/2 per cent, four per cent actual money loan, and an additional per cent which accrued to the company which was used by it paying premiums connected with each loan. Keiran became actively connected with the company in 1905. At that time the company was supposed to have a capital stock of twenty thousand although really it had nothing in its treasury. Keiran said he built up the assets to nearly seventy thousand dollars by 1907.

BRANDENBURG MAGAZINE WRITER

Man Accused of Selling a Forged Letter Is Before the Court in New York.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—Broughton Brandenburg, the magazine writer charged with grand larceny in the second degree in connection with the sale of a supposed letter by the late ex-President Cleveland, was called before Supreme Court Justice Dowling today. A special panel of one hundred jurymen was summoned. Mrs. Cleveland, widow of the ex-president, ex-Secretary of the Treasury Carlisle, and Richard Gilder, a friend of the ex-president, will testify the signature is a forgery. The trial is expected to be brief.

Ordered Brandenburg's Arrest. When the case was called Brandenburg had not appeared. His attorney declared he did not know his whereabouts. Justice Dowling declared the \$1,500 bond forfeited and issued a warrant for his arrest.

OBALDIA OUT WITH A DENIAL

He and Sixteen Members of the Cabinet Deny Taft's Connection With Panama Deal.

PANAMA, Feb. 1.—While Taft is in the zone, President Obaldia denied today charges brought by Representative Rainey of Illinois, in a speech before congress recently. Obaldia and sixteen members of the cabinet signed a statement exonerating Charles P. Taft, William Nelson Cromwell and Richard L. Farnum from any alleged connection with the Panama dealings.

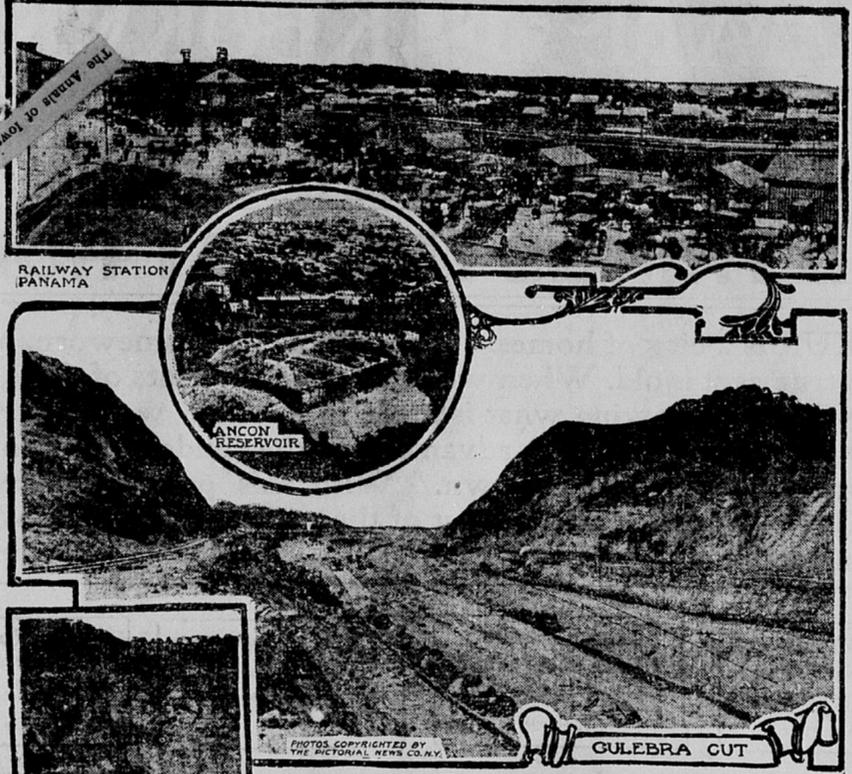
Gas Re-hearing Denied. WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—A petition of the Consolidated Gas company of New York for a rehearing in the eighty-cent gas case was denied by the Supreme court today.

THREE GUNBOATS LEAVE FOR JOLO

Warlike Moros Are Making Trouble and Expedition Is Sent Against Them.

MANILA, Feb. 1.—Three gunboats departed today for the Jolo Islands where warlike Moros are again reported making trouble. The Moros are said to have two thousand rifles and an unlimited store of ammunition. Today's expedition is the result of the murder of two weeks ago of seven pearl fishers at Panang by Moro pirates.

SCENES IN PANAMA CANAL ZONE SHOWING PROGRESS OF WORK VIEWED BY TAFT PARTY.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE VICTORIAN NEWS CO., N.Y.

[William H. Taft and the expert engineers who went with him to the Isthmus of Panama began their tour of inspection immediately upon their arrival at Colon. Mr. Taft went to Culebra on a special train and was quartered at the home of Lieutenant Colonel Goetzals, chairman of the Panama canal commission. They inspected the work on the big Culebra cut, a picture of which, taken last week, is reported herewith. The President-elect was both pleased and surprised at the progress of the work since his last visit to the canal zone and made a speech to the engineers, in which he endeavored to inspire them with independence of opinion regarding the big undertaking. After a thorough inspection of all the Culebra operations Mr. Taft and his party went to the Gatun dam which will be the basis of the report of the engineers when they return to Washington. Mr. Taft will sail from Colon on Feb. 5, returning by way of New Orleans.]

LAPUKLIN UP FOR HIGH TREASON

Former Director of Police of the Ministry of Interior Will Be Court Martialled and Probably Executed.

GAVE UP INFORMATION TO PROTECT APPARATUS FOR IMPROPER CARE

Accused of Co-Operating With the Revolutionists and Appointing a Revolutionist to Directorship.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 1.—Or-

ders were issued today for the court martial on a charge of high treason of Lapukhin, former director of police of the Ministry of the Interior. It is believed the evidence against Lapukhin will result in his conviction and execution. After his arrest he was allowed to return but this morning he was charged him out half dressed and took him to the police station. Lapukhin is charged with furnishing M. Bureff, a leading member of the Paris office of the Russian revolutionary party, with information that led to the exposure of Eugene Azef, the trusted agent of the party, but in reality the paid agent of the police. It has not developed what connection Lapukhin has with the revolutionary organization. He is also accused of appointing M. Bakal, knowing he was a revolutionist, to the directorship of the police at Warsaw.

Want "Teddy" for a Show.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Feb. 1.—An offer of \$10,000 a week for an engagement of thirty weeks with an organization to be known as "Roosevelt's congress of rough riders" has been formerly made to President Roosevelt by James Atlas, a former circus man, acting for himself and a syndicate who have made fortunes in the circus business.

Want no Warship.

MEXICO CITY, Mexico, Feb. 1.—The Mexican foreign office today issued a statement relative to the troubles in Honduras. It said no warship was asked for and none would be sent. The trouble is slight.

WIRELESS TO BE EXTENDED

Experience of the Republic Has Caused the Steamship Lines to Make Reform in Wireless Service.

SHIPS TO HAVE TWO DYNAMOS TO SUPPLY THE POWER IN SEPARATE WATER TIGHT COMPARTMENTS.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—Forewarned by the experience of the Republic steamship lines, it is learned today, have decided on an extensive reform in the wireless service. They will have two dynamos to supply the power for the wireless in separate water-tight compartments with engines running them, protected. Two additional dynamos will also be placed in the Marconi cabin on each ship to be operated by an engine located several decks higher than the main engine room.

CONVENTION TO CONTROL OPIUM

International Conference Held at Sugession of the U. S. Meets in Shanghai.

SHANGHAI, Feb. 1.—The International Opium Conference, suggested by the United States convened here today. It is hoped to develop a plan to control the opium traffic of the world. The United States, England, France, and Germany, China, Holland, Japan and Turkey are taking part in the conference. The American delegates are Rev. C. H. Brent, Episcopal bishop of the Philippines, and Dr. C. D. Tenney, secretary of the American Legation as Pekin; and Dr. Hamilton Wright, Washington.

170 Bodies Recovered.

CANTON, Feb. 1.—One hundred and seventy bodies have so far been recovered from the ruins of the fleet of flower boats which were burned yesterday. The searchers are still working among the ruins.

STEAMSHIP CO. HAD A MOTIVE

President Declares Charges Against the Author Were Result of His Criticism Against the Company.

LETTERS FROM WILLIAM PENDERGAST AND WIFE SAY THAT CONNOLLY WAS ONE OF THE COOLEST ON BOARD.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 1.—The president comes to the defense of James D. Connolly, the writer, for his conduct on board the ill fated Republic which has been brought into question by the steamship company. Although the president declined Connolly's appeals for a Roosevelt denunciation of the charges, which Connolly declares, are breaking him down, Roosevelt showed warm sympathy to Connolly and emphasized his disbelief of the charges by authorizing the publication of two letters from William Pendergast and wife, fellow passengers with Connolly on the steamer. The letters declare Connolly was one of the coolest men on board and that he was a favorite with the passengers because he was the coolest and for his help extended. He declared the charges against the author are the result of "s'c'elism of the steamship company for the improper care of passengers.

MAY TAKE TEN WEEKS TO GET JURY

Slow Progress Is Being Made in the Case Against Patrick Calhoun, of San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 1.—Enter-

ing on the fourth week of the trial of Patrick Calhoun, president of the Frisco railways, charged with bribery, found four places in the jury box still vacant. Five hundred veniremen have been examined. If the prosecution exercises its five peremptory challenges and the defense its ten, the selection of a jury will probably take ten weeks.

SUPREME COURT HITS PAPER TRUST

Combination Represented by the Continental Wall Paper Co., vs. Lewis Voight Sons Held to be Illegal.

LATTER COMPANY SUED

Continental Co. Forced the Cincinnati Firm to Become a Party to the Combination—Petition Dismissed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 1.—The supreme court today dealt a blow to the paper trust in an opinion in the case of the Continental Wall Paper company vs. the Lewis Voight Sons' company of Cincinnati. The latter company was sued by the former to collect \$57,762.10 said to be due the paper. The principal defense was that the Continental were members of an illegal combination which the Cincinnati firm were forced to become a party to until the court overruled the demurrer of the plaintiff. The court held "on admitted evidence the combination represented by the Continental was illegal" and dismissed the petition.

BUSSE'S BROTHER ACCIDENTAL SLAYER

Daughter of Brig. Gen. Girard Is the Victim of a Most Distressing Tragedy.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 1.—While standing in a bedroom dressing at the home of her father, Brig. Gen. A. C. Girard, United States Army, retired, in the Walton Apartment, Mrs. Lucius C. Tuckerman, aged 32 years, wife of a fruit dealer of Milton, N. Y., was killed last night by a bullet from a revolver accidentally discharged by George Busse, a brother of Mayor Fred A. Busse, in the latter's apartments across the air shaft from the Girard rooms.

George Busse was demonstrating the use of the weapon to Bertha Lamke, his housemaid, so that the woman might use it in case of burglars. Suddenly the gun was discharged. The bullet sped through the two windows of the Busse and Girard apartments on the fifth floor and pierced Mrs. Tuckerman's heart.

Young Son Sees Mother Die.

When struck by the bullet she staggered into a hallway. Gen. Girard and Mrs. Tuckerman's 5-year-old son Alfred rushed out from an adjoining room.

"Oh, father, I've been shot, and I'm dying," cried Mrs. Tuckerman, and expired.

A moment later there was a pounding at the door of the Girard apartment and Mayor Busse and his brother George came in. Mayor Busse's wife and his mother followed. The mayor summoned a physician and notified the police by telephone. The mayor immediately instituted a police investigation, but the relatives of Mrs. Tuckerman exonerated his brother of all blame. Gen. Girard expressing himself as being satisfied that the shooting was purely accidental. George Busse, who was bowed with grief over the tragedy, was not interfered with by the police pending the coroner's inquest tomorrow.

Mrs. Tuckerman was known in army circles throughout the country. In military society she was referred to as "one of the beautiful Girard sisters."

The Walton Apartments, in which the shooting occurred, are at 205-07 North Clark street, and the building is one of the landmarks of the north side neighborhood.

MEMORIAL SERVICE UNDER GUARD

Military Protection Offered While Lisbon Holds Memorial Service for Carlos and Luis.

BADAJOS, Spain, Feb. 1.—Memorial services, marking the first anniversary of the assassination of King Carlos and Crown Prince Luis of Portugal were held in Lisbon today under heavy military protection, according to messages from Lisbon.

Closed a Bank.

GREENFIELD, Mass., Feb. 1.—State Bank Examiner Jay this morning closed the Greenfield Savings bank, which has deposits of two million. The reason is not yet known.

SCHOONER RAMSEY REPORTED LOST

Fearful That the Schooner Which Piled Between Lake Ports With Crew of Dozen Men is Sunk.

FEAR FOR THE WILHELM

British Steamer Clan Ranald is a Total Wreck Near Edithsburg and Captain and Men are Lost.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 1.—It is believed today the vessel reported lost on Lake Pontcharaine, near Little Woods, twelve miles northeast of here, was the Ramsey, a schooner, which piled between the lake ports. It is feared the entire crew and a dozen men were lost. The Wilhelm, a schooner about the same size as the Ramsey is also missing. The wire is down and reports cannot be verified.

British Ship Lost.

MELBOURNE, Feb. 1.—The British steamer, Clan Ranald today is a total wreck near Edithsburg and the captain and forty-six members of the crew lost. Most of the crew were Asiatics. The vessel was seen drifting ashore last night and sank before the boats could reach her. Eighteen of the crew escaped.

Crew Saved.

The schooner Harrison arriving here today had on board the crew of the wrecked steamer Ramsey, with the exception of Captain Peter Jackson and a deck hand. The other members of the crew were rescued after being in the icy water twenty-six hours. The schooner Wilhelmina arrived safely in port today.

CLEMENS WAS THE MURDERER

Confessed That He Killed the Entire Morgan Family of Six Members Last November.

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., Feb. 1.—Bob Clemens, a farmer near here confessed today to the murder of the entire Morgan family, six members, last November. Clemens was arrested on the testimony of his wife whom, it is believed, betrayed him as the result of jealousy. The wife says Morgan on returning home at night found Clemens with his wife. In the quarrel which followed Clemens killed Morgan, his wife, then killed Morgan's mother and two children to get rid of witnesses. He returned next day and burned the building where he had hid the bodies.

Supreme Court Reverses Lower Court.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—The Supreme court of the United States today revoked the opinion of the lower court in the order for a new trial in the case of William Gordon Crawford, the Washington attorney, sentenced to two years in the penitentiary for conspiracy with Machen and Lorenzo in the postoffice frauds.

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST.

Indications for Iowa, Illinois and Missouri Wired from Chicago.

For Keokuk and vicinity: Fair tonight and Tuesday. Warmer tonight. For Illinois and Missouri: Fair tonight and Tuesday. Warmer tonight. For Iowa: Fair tonight and Tuesday. Warmer east portion.

Weather Conditions.

Saturday's area of high pressure has moved slowly eastward, and extends from the lake region to the gulf, attended by low temperature east of the Mississippi river, the temperature falling to 24 in Florida, and there have been light snow flurries in the lake region.

The western low barometer is in Oregon, with light rains in Oregon, and rising temperature from the Pacific coast to the Mississippi valley. Over the western plateau region the weather is generally fair and warmer. Fair, warmer weather is indicated in this section tonight and Tuesday.

Local Observations.

Jan. Bar. Ther. Wind. Weather. 31 7 p.m. 39.63 16 S Clear Feb. 1 7 a.m. 30.54 19 S Cldy. River above low water of 1854, 3 ft. Change in twenty-four hours, fall, 0.2 feet. Mean temperature Jan. 31, 6. Maximum temperature Jan. 31, 18. Minimum temperature Jan. 31, 5 below.

FRED Z. GOSEWISCH, Observer.