

RAILROAD COMPANY CONSPIRACY SHOWN TO EXIST

ANNUAL AWARDING OF PRIZES TO EMPLOYEES BY O. S. L. TAKES PLACE.

Salt Lake City, Dec. 22.—The annual award of prizes to station agents and other employes was announced today by the Oregon Short Line. Scores were made on points and medals were offered for the best division on the system, the best district, best station, best pumping station, best shops, best section houses and grounds and best signal charging plant. The Idaho division, W. H. Jones, superintendent, won the gold medal with a score of 92.7 points. For the best district, that of Nampa, Tim Donovan, roadmaster, captured the prize with a score of 92.52. The best section was No. 48, Glenn's Ferry district, Patrick Brennan, foreman, score 94.5. The best shops on the system were those at Ogden. The best section houses and grounds were those on sections 5 and 105 of the Utah division and section 5 on the Salt Lake division. The best signal charging plant was that at Pocatello, Idaho. Among the stations recognized as perfect and receiving gold medals were: Midvale, Kayville and Mendon, Utah; Rose Fork, Elva, Ashton, Nampa, Orchard, Richfield and Welser, Idaho; Dillon, Mont. and Ontario, Ore. Perfect pumping stations were found at Valmy, Battle Mountain and Beowawe, Nev.; Garland, Utah; Shoshone, Gooding, King Hill, Glenn's Ferry, Weiser and Payette, Idaho and Nyssa, Ore.

SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT IS DESIRE OF WOMEN

Representatives of Gotham's Association Appeals to Governor Hughes to Take Action.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 22.—Governor Hughes was asked today by representatives of the New York Woman Suffrage association to recommend in his annual message to the legislature a woman's suffrage amendment. The governor listened attentively to the speakers and congratulated them on the calm, earnest and dispassionate manner in which they discussed such an important question. So far as his personal views were concerned, he said he had nothing to say at this time.

SANTA CLARA COLLEGE BUILDINGS BURNED

San Jose, Cal., Dec. 22.—Fire which started in a room occupied by Father Victor White, vice prefect of discipline and instructor of Latin, shortly after 1 o'clock this morning, consumed property at the Santa Clara college, three miles from here, roughly estimated at \$100,000. The entire south wing, occupied by the scholastic clergy burned. The destroyed wing contained three valuable reference libraries, used by the fathers, teachers and students. Among the books were historical records written by the early Jesuit fathers. The largest collection of sacred relics on the coast, also in this building, was a total loss. The students were away on vacation. The college is one of the pioneer institutions of this coast. A portion of the burned building was erected in 1815.

STOPPED BY POLICE.

Gary, Ind., Dec. 21.—The scheduled 19-round sparring exhibition between Johnny Coulon, bantamweight champion, and Earl Dening, both of Chicago, was stopped in the third round last night by the police. Both principals and Promoter Green were arrested.

THEATRICAL AGENT DIES.

New York, Dec. 21.—Mrs. E. K. Hernandez, the first woman theatrical agent in America and mother of Bijou Fernandez, the actress, died today at her home here after an illness of several weeks.

Attention, Members.

There will be a special meeting of the Fraternal Brotherhood Monday evening, December 27. Business of importance. Be sure and come.

Ladies Cordially Welcomed

THE SMOKE HOUSE

MASONIC TEMPLE

Finest lines of Lowney's Candies, Imported and Domestic Cigars, Smokers' Articles in the Northwest.

Inspection Invited Without Obligation to Buy

ALASKAN GOVERNOR REPORTS

EFFORTS MADE TO RUIN BUSINESS OF MEN OPPOSED TO BENZOATE OF SODA.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Congressmen and government officials interested in the pure food law are agitated at the uncovering of a far-reaching, well-planned criminal conspiracy to ruin the reputations and business of those manufacturers who still stand out against benzoate of soda as a food preservative. The plot was revealed by the confessions of two of the men implicated, who were arrested a few days ago in Pittsburgh. They have been bound over to trial by the examining magistrate, and before the federal courts are through with the case some of those involved stand an excellent chance of intimate acquaintance with the interior of a prison, aside from the fact that in the course of the plot the men arrested represented themselves as government officials sent to Pittsburgh to secure evidence against a prominent pickling and preserving firm, what chiefly concerns administration circles is that those charged with conspiracy have been most conspicuous as supporters of Secretary of Agriculture Wilson in his favorable attitude toward benzoate of soda. They were active in securing the appointment of an extra governmental board and the reference to it of questions affecting chemical preservatives and coloring matter, and since the first decision, favorable to benzoate of soda, has been concerned in misleading the public through the dissemination of literature and advertising matter, some of it, at least, wholly false. In this connection appear three pickling and preserving firms, champions and users of benzoate of soda, one in New York City, one in northern New York, and one in Michigan. They are members of an association of manufacturers formed to defend benzoate of soda and operate through the Century Press Syndicate of New York. This latter organization is the promoter of the Association for the Promotion of Public Health, under which disguise some of its productions are circulated. The two men arrested in Pittsburgh were employees of the Century Press Syndicate.

According to the confessions of the men arrested the purpose of the plot was to ruin the manufacturers against which it was directed by falsely accusing of secretly using benzoate of soda. A valuable foundation was to be laid and secured by photographs, affidavits, chemical analyses, etc., and false witness was to be destroyed by the widespread publication of an article based on this manufactured evidence. Entering into the conspiracy are all the characters of a thrilling detective story or lurid melodrama, including the wealthy plotters seeking revenge, detectives, chemists, newspaper writers, photographers, employees, faithful and otherwise, and finally attorneys and the courts. The plotters bribed an employe of the Pittsburgh firm to turn over to them a bottle of condiment used in the manufacture of catsup. An arrangement was made to rush the condiment to a chemist for analysis, and the conspirators arranged that the one of their number who received the bottle should put a quantity of benzoate of soda in it before taking it to the chemist. Unfortunately for the plotters, the supposed faithless employe was acting under instructions from his employers, and the man with the bottle was nabbed by the detectives as he was leaving the factory and the bottle of condiment, as well as the benzoate of soda he was to insert, were found on him. He subsequently confessed his share in the conspiracy.

The business world may well be astounded at the revelation of a plot to ruin a conspicuous firm in this dastardly manner, but what will concern the public most is that the plot was conceived and directed against this particular firm solely because of its advocacy of the pure food law, and that those who put up the job are those most prominently identified with the effort to break down the spirit of the law, if not the letter. That the department of agriculture has refused to reopen the question of the use of benzoate of soda at the request of the medical associations, including both the American Medical Association and the American Institute of Homeopathy, but stands by the "dopers" of food and news, does not in the minds of intelligent observers reflect credit on those charged with guarding the food supply of the country. Will the administration, already suspected of lukewarmness toward the food law because of the attitude of the department of agriculture toward benzoate of soda, sulphurous acid, copperas, etc., will think of this latest effort on the part of the dopers is a question. What will congress think about it?

JOINT INVESTIGATION WILL BE PROPOSED

Washington, Dec. 22.—Senator Jones, who yesterday read in the Senate Secretary Ballinger's letter asking for a committee to investigate the matters contained in the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy, and Representative Humphrey, also of Washington, had a long talk with President Taft today regarding the inquiry to which the president has given his consent. Both told the president they agreed with Secretary Ballinger that the best results would be obtained through an investigation by a joint committee. The investigation is intended to give the public all the facts. As a result of the conference it was that on January 4 Senator Jones would order in the Senate an Representative Humphrey in the house resolutions calling for a joint investigation of the widest possible scope. The forestry service will be included in the resolution along with the interior department and the land office.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE FAR NORTHERN COUNTRY TELLS OF CONDITIONS.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 22.—Early development of the great coal fields of Alaska in order that states on the Pacific slope may be furnished with a high grade coal at less cost than the product now brought half way around the world and that the warships of the United States navy in the Pacific may be provided with a first-class fuel of American production, is advocated by Governor Wilford B. Hoggatt of Alaska, in his annual report for this year before being succeeded by Governor Walter E. Clark. Alaska, according to Governor Hoggatt, passed a year of quiet development of its resources and without any marked incidents to excite unusual interest. The population remained practically the same, there having been a redistribution but no gain. Commerce between Alaska and the United States increased; satisfactory experiments in raising grain and cattle were made and the mining industries were successful and without recurrence of the labor troubles which materially interfered with operations last year.

Recommendations of Importance

made by the governor Hoggatt include the placing of the governor under the authority of the department of justice, instead of the department of the interior as at present, a fair method of disposing of the coal lands of Alaska, the inspection of the mines by the United States Geological Survey in order to protect workmen, the extension to natives of Alaska of the right to acquire public lands and to hold and transmit property, appropriations for aids to navigation and the establishment of a lighthouse district or sub-district with a tender.

Coal Mining.

"Encouragement should be given to those engaged in mining coal in Alaska," says Governor Hoggatt. "Unless a way is found to open the coal fields of Alaska, the population will decrease and the unknown resources of the country be undiscovered for an indefinite period. Coal mining can be made a permanent and profitable industry in Alaska and the establishment of camps will aid materially in the development of its resources. Mining of coal on Seward Peninsula would mean much to the people living in that section, as the cost of fuel under present conditions is very high and the consumption per capita is very great. The mineral is widely distributed throughout Alaska and is found to be of very high grade in the Matanuska and Bering river valleys. Workable deposits are also to be found on Seward Peninsula. No titles having been secured to any coal lands in Alaska development of the deposits has not been made. Once titles to the lands is given to the miners, development will follow rapidly. Transportation seems to be assured. Charges of fraud in the location of coal lands should be sifted and determined with expedition and patents issued to those entitled, and rejection of patents promptly made to those who have in any way violated the coal land laws relating to Alaska and the United States.

The future development of Alaska will depend very largely upon all-the-year-round easy communication between the coast and the interior. This naturally depends upon transportation facilities. There seems to be ample business reasons to warrant the construction of railroads from the coast to the Bering river and Matanuska coal fields, and to the copper mines in the Alaskan range of mountains. Beyond these points there is no present business to warrant capital, unaided, to construct railroads. Sufficient knowledge of feasible routes from the coast to the interior I believe is now to be had and could be obtained by the government through a board of army and railroad engineers, who should determine upon the most feasible routes for the location of such lines as should be built for the development of Alaska. When the work of this board is completed the government should secure the construction of the railroads in a similar manner to that adopted for the construction of railroads in the Philippine Islands. If a railroad is to be built from the coast of Alaska to the Yukon valley, it will be necessary for the government to bear a part of the burden of expense of operation for 10 or 15 years after its construction, which period will be required for the development of the interior of Alaska to such an extent as to make the railroad self-sustaining. The money now paid for a very extensive mail service if returned to a railroad when built, would go a long way toward its maintenance. I have, therefore, to urge that a board of army and railroad engineers be appointed for the purpose outlined above. If

SCHLEY LOYAL TO COOK STILL

(Continued From Page One.)

vanish from the consideration of the world, I never trusted him, for the first report he made did not inspire confidence, especially his statements concerning the distance of 11 seconds from the pole. This proved that Cook was ignorant of the simplest principles of astronomical observations. Even his later reports contained nothing of value. On the contrary, they were filled with improbabilities and contradictions. "From the first I was unable to support Dr. Cook. I therefore preferred to keep silent. As for Peary, I never doubted his veracity, although I did not approve of his behavior after his return. However, it is easy to understand his indignation. At least he is a man and there is no comparison between him and Cook."

May Keep Honors.

Copenhagen, Dec. 22.—It is not believed that either the University of Copenhagen or the Royal Geographical society will withdraw the honors which they conferred on Dr. Frederick A. Cook. Officials of the university say that the institution did not bestow the degree as a reward for the discovery of the pole, but merely in recognition of Dr. Cook's Arctic explorations. The Royal Geographical society takes the same ground.

MANY ARE KILLED.

Panama, Dec. 22.—A wireless dispatch from Bluefields addressed to General Chamorro's father here, reports 600 men killed and 1,800 prisoners and 1,000,000 cartridges captured by the provisional government forces at Rama.

W. J. RHOADES

REAL ESTATE, MINES AND INSURANCE.

116 West Cedar St.

the government does not assume a part of the burden of interior transportation, we will have to wait for a permanent development of the interior of Alaska until such time as discoveries of phenomenal mineral deposits will justify private capital in the construction of railroads.

Permanent Community.

"If a railroad is built to the Matanuska coal fields, it will establish a permanent community north of the coast range of mountains where men will have an opportunity to earn a livelihood throughout the year, and establish a base from which they can prospect for a radius of 100 or 200 miles, within which in all probability something will be found which will justify the extension of the railroad still farther toward the interior.

"Gold mining is being successfully carried on throughout the whole district," says Governor Hoggatt. "The development of recent discoveries of veins carrying high grade ores have been very encouraging and there seems to be a revival of interest in gold quartz mining throughout southeastern Alaska. Discoveries of quartz carrying high values have been made in the Fairbanks mining districts; and a limited amount of development work has been done with encouraging results. High grade gold ores have been discovered on the Kenai peninsula near Willow creek, and the best of these prospects are being developed. Placer mining continues in a small way in southeastern Alaska and the beach at Cape Yaktag and in Sook Inlet. This character of mining continues throughout the Yukon valley, and activities in the Fairbanks district continue unabated. Increased interest is shown in the prospecting in the Susitna and Kuskowim valleys and encouraging reports are made of these districts. A large number of prospectors and miners are in these districts, and it is hoped that development in the new territory will be sufficient rapid to maintain the production of gold for several years. On the Seward peninsula drift mining is giving way to dredging and hydraulic mining."

Wants a Law.

Governor Hoggatt recommends a law to diminish the controversies over the ownership of placer claims or to diminish the evils which have grown up under the practice of staking unlimited numbers of claims by individuals or through power of attorney, and providing that eight times the amount of work to be performed upon a single claim to continue ownership for one year should be performed on each association claim during the year.

Regarding the recommendation he makes to change the governor of Alaska from the control of the department of the interior to the department of justice, Governor Hoggatt says: "The provisions of the act for a civil government for Alaska provides that the governor shall have authority to see that the laws of the district are enforced and to require the faithful discharge of their duties by officials appointed to administer the administration of laws are under the control of the department of justice, and it would appear that if one of the principal duties of the governor is to see that the officials perform their duties, he should also be an official of the department of justice. I have, therefore, to recommend that legislation to this end be enacted. A change in the law will prevent conflict of authority, tend to the establishment of a uniform policy for the enforcement of law, and lead to a better administration of the affairs of the territory."

A general law providing for the sale of townships, under the supervision of the secretary of the interior, with proper reservation of lands for public purposes, Governor Hoggatt says should be passed. "Without such a law," he points out, "congress and the interior department will be called upon to support private bills for the purchase of townships, every one of which will have a lobby in Washington attempting to secure its passage."

KILLS BELL.

Miles City, Mont., Dec. 22.—(Special.)—A telephone message from Schley's ranch between Powder River and Herkett says that W. J. Schmalz struck and killed Tom Bell with a poker. Trouble arose over a game of cards and the killing occurred during a quarrel over the game. The sheriff and coroner have gone out to secure the body of the dead man and to arrest the slayer.

MUST TRY CASE ONCE.

New York, Dec. 22.—The government will have to try its first big fraud case all over again. The jury in the case of Joseph McMahon, a former assistant customs weigher, reported last night that it has failed to reach a verdict and was discharged. McMahon was paroled under his former bond of \$2,500.

Mrs. S. Joyce, Claremont, N. H., writes: "About year ago I bought two bottles of Foley's Kidney Remedy. It cured me of a severe case of kidney trouble of several years standing. It certainly is a grand, good medicine, and I heartily recommend it." Garden City Drug Co., George Freisheimer, proprietor.

WHEAT CROP DAMAGED.

St. Joseph, Mo., Dec. 22.—Severely cold weather continued throughout northwest Missouri today. Farmers say the wheat crop is badly damaged as a result of so much water being in the ground from late rains when the hard freeze came.

VICTIM OF HER GIFT.

Placerville, Cal., Dec. 22.—Mrs. Elizabeth Ferguson, who bought a 22-caliber rifle for her 12-year-old son's Christmas present, was accidentally killed last night by a bullet from the weapon which the boy was examining.

SMALLPOX EPIDEMIC.

Amoy, China, Dec. 22.—The officials of the American marine hospital announced the presence of a smallpox epidemic in Amoy. Quarantine regulations for the protection of the Philippines have been inaugurated.

The Crescent Store

NORQUIST, TINKEL CO.

MISSOULA — MONT.

210 HIGGINS AVENUE PHONE 192 BLACK

The Crescent Will Be Known for Its Values

A general reduction has been taken and goods are being sold for less to avoid even greater losses. Our reason justifies us in making this sacrifice. Merchandise in reserve with our shelves already heavily loaded, merchandise that has not been popular at the season's early marking, merchandise soiled, merchandise slightly damaged in transit. Counters have been arranged and special prices will prevail throughout the house.

Yesterday's Express Brought Many Wanted Xmas Novelties

50c and 60c Ribbons yd. 29c	Women's Belts 50c, 65c and 75c Each A good assortment of new elastic belts, in white, black and colors; all have the new, attractive buckles.	Men's Neckwear 50c and 75c Christmas neckwear, in light and medium light colors, squares, four-in-hand and bat wings; made from the choicest late winter patterns.
Another large assortment of those dainty ribbons, 6 inches wide, that have been so popular, at the special, a yd., 29c	Barrettes Many styles to choose from at prices, each, 25c and 35c	

HOUSE-MOVER SHOT BY FRIEND

TROUBLE BETWEEN OLD COMPANIONS LEADS TO SERIOUS WOUNDING OF ONE.

Butte, Dec. 22.—(Special.)—Jed West and C. V. Palmer, both house-movers, had trouble this morning, which resulted in the shooting of Palmer by West, and the former is in a hospital with a small chance of recovery, a heavy bullet from an old-fashioned Springfield rifle having plowed a hole through his body. West did the shooting. The trouble occurred about 11 o'clock this afternoon. The men had quarreled over the removal of an old house, which recently was set afire. One accused the other of evoked work, and both separated with the promise that they would "heal themselves." West did so, but apparently Palmer did not. A few minutes later Palmer was shot while he was in his back yard. Then West calmly went to work sawing wood, and he was still at that duty when arrested by the sheriff. Both of the men are old-timers in Butte and they had been friends for many years.

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European Plan. Building Entirely Remodeled and Refurnished. Location Convenient.

Dining Room Open 6 a. m. to 8 p. m.

P. J. CONROY, Manager.

OPEN EVENINGS

Two presents for the price of one.

Sample Shoe Store 322 Higgins Ave.

Little Folks Stuffed

—LIKE TOADS

These holidays make a lot of sick folks—some of them awfully ill. In spite of all you can do the little folks will overeat Xmas times. Don't fail to give them a CASCARET at bed time and help nature get rid of the overload. It will keep them well and lively.

Buy a 10c box CASCARETS—week's treatment and have it handy to use every night Xmas week.

Jewelry Auction

Save money on your Christmas presents. Don't overlook getting your share of our high-grade jewelry for Christmas presents for all demands. Sold at public auction at your own price. Every article guaranteed as represented by auctioneer. Sales begin 10 a. m., 2 p. m., 7 p. m. Free souvenirs at each sale.

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Located within 600 feet of the Great Northern Railway, between Helena and Butte. All trains stop at the hotel.

HOT MINERAL SPRINGS The best health and pleasure resort in the West. Vapor, mud and plunge baths in the hotel. Steam heat and electric lights. Booklet sent on request.

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Williams' Stages

Colds Cause Headache. Laxative Bromo Quinine, the world wide cold and grip remedy removes cause. Call for full name. Look for signature E. W. Grove, 22c.