

HARNESS WASTING WATERS, SAYS LANE

U. S. Ownership of Hydro-Electric Plants Favored in Secretary's Report.

URGES FEDERAL RAILWAYS IN ALASKA

Leasing of Coal and Oil Lands on Royalty Is Also Advocated.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, in his annual report to the President outlined a broad policy in the conservation of the natural resources of the United States which yet lie within the regulatory powers of the government, and pointed to the important results that may be achieved through the development of these resources under proper supervision.

Two predictions are made in the report. One is that the time is not far distant when coal of too low a grade to stand storage or transportation will be converted into electricity at the mouth of the mines and widely distributed for lighting, heat and power. The other is that the gigantic force now wasting itself in the rivers of the country will be so controlled by dams as to provide heat, light and power for the people, and that within a generation the people will be as alive to the value of public ownership of hydro-electric power plants as they are to-day to municipally owned water-works.

"We have adventured upon a new policy of administering our affairs," says Secretary Lane, "and have not developed adequate machinery. We have called a halt on methods of spoliation which extended to the great benefit of many, but we have failed to substitute methods, sane, healthful and progressive, by which the normal enterprise of an ambitious people can make full use of their own resources. We abruptly closed opportunities to the monopolist, but did not open them to the developer."

Discontent Over Land Policy.

The land policy put in force, he says, "caused dismay and discontent." Congress had been most generous in its disposition of the public lands. They were given to the railroads and to the states. To classify them was too difficult a task. They would classify themselves when they arrived in individual ownership. And so the door was opened for monopoly and for fraud.

"If the government did not appreciate the invaluable nature of its assets there were men who did. The nation wanted homesteaders, but found its lands drifting into the hands of corporations, which were withdrawing them from the market. A reaction was inevitable. If lands were to be withdrawn from public service, why might not the government do the withdrawing itself?"

"My conclusion is that if we are to bring Alaska into the early and full realization of her possibilities we must create a new piece of governmental machinery for the purpose. In my judgment the way to deal with the problem of Alaskan resources is to establish a board of directors to have this work in charge."

"To this board or commission I would give all the national assets in that territory, to be used primarily for her improvement—her lands, fisheries, Indians, Eskimoes, seals, forests, mines, waterways, railroads—all that the nation owns, saves for, controls or regulates. Congress should determine in broad outline the policies which this board in a liberal discretion should elaborate and administer, such as is done to the Philippines."

Urges Railroad Building.

"Strongly as I would urge this method of management I would not have Alaska wait for needed legislation until the merits of such a plan could be passed upon by Congress. Those things which appeal to me as of immediate necessity upon which independent action may be taken by the construction of railroads in the territory and the opening of her coal lands."

Secretary Lane expresses the opinion that privately owned railroads would not be constructed in Alaska for many years, except as adjuncts to private enterprises. He regards it wise, therefore, for the government to undertake their building.

Mr. Lane declares the coal fields of Alaska "should be opened not to speculators, but to operators. Those should have these lands who will use them. None should be operated as a basis for a gamble in future values." In his judgment they may be turned over safely to the public "under a leasing and royalty system."

DENISON'S NAME HELD UP Confirmation as Philippine Commissioner Delayed.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Republican Senators, led by Senator Smoot of Utah, prevented action in the Senate to-day upon the appointment of Winfred T. Denison, of New York, as a member of the Philippine Commission and Secretary of the Interior for the island government. His name was sent in last session, but was not acted on, and President Wilson reappointed him early in December.

Mr. Denison was an assistant United States attorney when appointed and was employed in the prosecution of customs frauds. His opponents in the Senate alleged that he had been unduly active in Republican and later in Progressive political affairs.

Dr. Montessori Off to Italy.

Dr. Maria Montessori, the Italian educator who has been lecturing in the United States, sailed for Europe on the Lusitania at 1 o'clock this morning. Dr. Montessori arrived in New York yesterday from Pittsburgh, and spent the day resting and driving about the city. At the pier last night were several of her friends, and flowers and Christmas gifts filled her stateroom.

THE EGOTISTICAL

By Ellen Wilkins Tompkins Cloth, \$1.00 Net Holiday Books of All Kinds by All Publishers. E. P. DUTTON & COMPANY, 681 Fifth Avenue, New York. Near 53d Street. Tel. No. Plaza 7400

LOVE SLAVE, FREED, PREFERS PRISON

Continued from first page.

his clerical work during her stay with him.

Standing at the window of her cell this afternoon, Adelaide Branch caught a glimpse of the hearse containing Couch's body as it passed through a blinding snowstorm over a distant hill-top on the way to Rock Ridge Cemetery.

In the carriage following the hearse sat Couch's legal wife; but the woman who styles herself "the wife of his heart," and who for love of the dead lawyer remained a virtual prisoner in a secret room adjoining his office for three years, had pleaded in vain to be allowed to attend the services or to have one last look at the face of the man she loved. The woman's request had been laid before Mrs. Couch and had been refused.

To-day for the first time since she was discovered Sunday morning hiding behind a thin partition only a few feet from Couch's dead body, Miss Branch talked freely of her relations with Couch. Through her own admissions it is learned that the lawyer died in her arms, following a lovers' quarrel, and that the woman blames herself for causing his death.

Quarrel Precedes Death.

The quarrel which overtaxed Couch's enfeebled heart and led to his death originated in Miss Branch's rebelling against the solitary life she had been leading. "You will have to be with your family all Christmas Day," she told Couch, "and I can't bear to be here alone without a chance to speak to a soul. I've been thinking it over, and I want to go to Goshen and spend the day with Mrs. Ostram, where I used to board."

Couch objected. Possibly he feared that liberty would prove so attractive a novelty to Miss Branch that she would not be willing to return to her voluntary prison. The reason he gave, however, was that there was an unusually large accumulation of legal correspondence and he wanted the woman to attend to it, as was her wont.

A violent quarrel followed. Couch had been complaining of feeling unwell for some time, and he became so excited that Miss Branch feared for him and yielded. She promised to remain at the office over Christmas. There was a reconciliation, but the strain of the quarrel had been too much for Couch, and he toppled into Miss Branch's arms with what she described as "a sort of gurgling cry."

Sought Aid for Dying Man.

"I had seen people die before," said the woman to-day, "and I knew that what was dying. I ran for Dr. Curlette, who I knew was a brother-in-law of 'Mel's.'"

"When we got back he was dead. The doctor said right away that the death was due to the bursting of the aorta as the result of excitement. "I knew that it was caused by our quarrel and my selfish desire to go away from him when he really needed me to care for him."

When Couch's wife hurried to the office last Sunday morning, upon receiving word that her husband was critically ill, Miss Branch's first words, after being discovered in her hiding place, were that she was to blame for the death.

"I killed him; it was my fault," she sobbed. "I loved him so, but I killed him, and I can never forgive myself."

"His Wife in Love."

"Yes, loved him. He was dear to me. You may have been his wife by marriage, but I was his wife in love. He was so good to me, and he was old and needed some one to look after him. I bandaged his ankle; I cooked for him; I wrote his letters and copied his documents. I made him comfortable and happy."

"Yes," continued the sobbing woman. "I know you are bitter. I would feel like killing if I were in your place, but I could not help it. I gave up everything for him, my friends and my associations with others, just because I loved him."

Mrs. Couch's attitude since her husband's death and the subsequent revelation of his dual personality has been one of dignified silence. She is a devout church woman and one of the most devoted religious workers in the community. To-day, for the first time, she spoke of the strange discovery.

Mrs. Couch Unsuspecting.

"The whole thing is a closed incident in my life," she said, as she smoothed her gray hair with one hand and pressed her lips firmly together.

"I was in ignorance concerning this thing just as much as you were. I thought nothing of my husband spending his nights at the office, because I knew he was lame and found it difficult to climb the hill to our home. He always came home Sunday, however."

"Now, please, please don't trouble me any more."

"I can say nothing except that I am sorry for Mrs. Couch and hope she will forgive me. What she has suffered I have suffered, too, at times," said Miss Branch.

"I loved Mr. Couch so that all I wanted was to be with him all the time. I grudged the hours he spent with his wife and daughter. I had never seen his wife, although I had heard her voice. "She came to the office often, and I have sat behind the partition and heard her ask Mr. Couch what he kept there. My heart would be in my mouth for fear of discovery; but he always put her off by saying that it was only a storeroom. "One night, not so long ago, I was alone and I decided to see the woman I had never set eyes on. I walked to Mr. Couch's home, and looking through a window I saw the family sitting around a table, laughing and chatting. I remained a few minutes and then went back to the tiny room that I called home. "Don't for a moment imagine I was unhappy. I revelled in the great love of my life. I would have worn chains for 'Mel.' I suppose to the outside world, I must call it that, my existence must appear to have been that of a slave. But to me it was sheer happiness. "Much of Miss Branch's time during the years spent in the secret room was passed in reading and in translating French writers. Her favorite for this purpose was de Maupassant, an author whose pen was nearly always employed in creating strange episodes of love, but none stranger than the history of the woman whose lonely hours he beguiled."

CLEMENTS CONFIRMED SOON AS REAPPOINTED

President Sends Long List of Nominations to Senate on Eve of Recess.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Judson C. Clements, of Georgia, was reappointed to-day by President Wilson a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and his nomination was immediately confirmed by the Senate.

President Wilson also sent the following nominations to the Senate to-day: Secretary of embassy, Madrid—Fred Morris Dearing, of Missouri. Second secretaries—Thomas Hinckley, of Washington, at Vienna; Arthur Hugh Frazier, of Pennsylvania, at Paris; George T. Summerlin, of Louisiana, at Berlin; Henry Coleman May, of Washington, at Tokyo, and Arthur Mason Jones, of New York, at St. Petersburg.

Secretaries of legations—Hugh S. Gibson, of California, at Brussels; Gustave Scholle, of Minnesota, at Havana; Francis Munroe Endicott, of Massachusetts, at San José, Costa Rica; M. Marshall Lamborne, of Virginia, to the Netherlands and Luxembourg; Sheldon Whitehouse, of New York, at Managua; Franklin Mott Gunther, of Virginia, at Christiania; James G. Halley, of Kentucky, at Lisbon; William Whiting Andrews, of Ohio, at Bern, and William Spencer, of Pennsylvania, at Caracas.

Second secretary of legation—Frederick A. Sterling, of Texas, at Peking. Secretary of legation and consul general—Henry F. Tennant, of New York, at San Salvador.

Judson C. Clements became a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission in March, 1882, when he was appointed three times and became chairman in 1911.

Henry F. Tennant was third secretary of the American Embassy at Mexico City.

POLICE PUZZLED BY DE VILLIERS KILLING

Pistol Found Beside Boer Leader's Body, Just Like Glover's.

Los Angeles, Dec. 23.—Investigation of the killing of Daniel de Villiers, the Boer veteran, who was shot here on Sunday by Roy L. Glover, a Texas land agent, while he was attempting to see the former Mrs. de Villiers, occupied police attention to-day.

Glover says he shot in self-defense. An uncharged automatic pistol of the same type that Glover used was found beside de Villiers's body as it lay in the room where the tragedy occurred, but the police say the dead man, who is said to have been a member of the family of Sir Henry de Villiers, of Cape Colony, South Africa, was unarmed when he went to the residence of Glover.

Paterson, N. J., Dec. 23.—Mrs. Roy L. Glover was formerly the wife of Vice-Chancellor Vivian M. Lewis, of No. 55 Park avenue. She left him and her two small children about six years ago, and they were subsequently divorced.

De Villiers came here in 1908 and opened a riding school, at which Mrs. Lewis was a pupil. Mrs. Lewis and de Villiers went away together, and were next heard from in South America, where de Villiers was said to have deserted the woman. She afterward went to New York, and lived for a time in West 129th street, near Eighth avenue.

OFFERS TO BURN \$500,000 LOANS

D. H. Tolman Willing to Destroy Contracts with Victims for Glynn's Pardon.

Albany, Dec. 23.—An application for the pardon of D. H. Tolman, a loan shark, was made to Governor Glynn to-day by ex-Senator Charles A. Towne, who was accompanied by the applicant's wife, E. E. Tolman, his son, and four women managers of the Tolman loan offices in Buffalo, Syracuse, Rochester and Albany.

Tolman was sentenced in October to six months' imprisonment for charging exorbitant interest on loans.

Mr. Towne and his law partner, Benjamin E. Spellman, presented to the Governor several large bundles of papers said to represent \$500,000 in loans to victims of the Tolman loan offices. It is understood that the application contained an offer to cancel these loans by burning them before the Governor in the Executive chamber fireplace if he would grant the pardon.

The offer, it is believed, would merely have the effect of reducing the amount of the loans to the actual money put out by the firm. The Tolman concern would still have the right to recover such money, but not the full amount called for by the contracts between the loan office and the persons to whom the loans were made. Tolman was charged with loaning \$10 and then entering into a contract with the person calling for \$14 or \$20 at the legal rate of interest.

E. E. Tolman had evidently expected that the Governor would take immediate action on the application, and had come prepared to burn the loan contracts at once. The visitors were somewhat embarrassed when Mr. Glynn insisted on the application taking its natural course through the hands of his pardon clerk, Owen L. Potter. It is understood that the offer to burn the contracts was also made to the Attorney General, but he refused to allow his fireplace to be used for that purpose.

The Tolman party then carried the papers back to their hotel, where they will remain until to-morrow, when Mr. Towne intends to again take up the matter with the Governor.

Governor Glynn said later that he would treat the application in the same manner as any other appeal for executive clemency.

Give Health

Your \$10 will give a whole week of Hospital care to some one seriously ill or injured who might die without it, or become a permanent object of charity. The 47 Associated Hospitals cared for over 60,000 free patients last year. Please send your gift, large or small, to CHARLES LANIER, Treas., 39 Cedar St. HOSPITAL SAVINGS AND SUNDAY ASSOCIATION. MRS. JAMES SPEYER, 227 Madison Av., Treasurer, Woman's Auxiliaries. ROBERT OLYPHANT, President.



LORD MURRAY OF ELIBANK. (Photo by Campbell Studio.)

LORD MURRAY ON WAY TO NEW YORK

Pearson Partner Raps So-Called Dollar Diplomacy of the United States.

By Telegraph to The Tribune. New Orleans, Dec. 23.—It was about a year ago that throughout the British Empire went the query:

"Where is Lord Murray of Elibank?" Lord Murray, it was said, was the one man in England who could shed most light on the Marconi stock affair, in which members of the British Cabinet and Parliament were implicated. But his lordship, who was formerly a whip of the Liberal party, had taken ship to Central America, and his testimony never was offered in the investigation which resulted.

Until to-day Lord Murray has set no foot on English speaking territory. The United Fruit Company's steamer Abancarez brought the nobleman to the port of New Orleans. He had come from Colombia, where, during the last year, he has negotiated vainly for engineering concessions for the Pearson concern, of which he is a partner.

"I am on my way to New York," he said, "where I shall transact a little business. Not wishing to interfere with the Christmas celebrations of my British friends, I have determined to wait in New Orleans for several days and then take train for the North."

In the matter of oil field concessions in Colombia Lord Murray states that any action by the United States would not have changed the situation anyhow. The concessions have been held up in Bogota because President Restrepo has a hostile majority against him in the Colombian Congress, and the matter cannot be settled for about a year. In the meantime representatives of his company are making surveys of the ports of Cartagena, Barranquilla and Tumaco for the purpose of building harbor improvements later for the account of the government of Colombia.

At the same time Lord Murray took several severe raps at so-called dollar diplomacy.

"We bear no feeling of malice toward the United States because of this loss," the nobleman said. "Our chief feeling in the matter is that this country should not have interfered after we had gone so far in our arrangements. The Pearsons have spent a great deal of money, much of which, because of the withdrawing of the concessions, will be a total loss."

He says that his concern frequently comes in competition with American companies, and that such competition is perfectly legitimate, and, further, that the Pearsons have secured and carried out many large contracts in the United States. The only action of the American government that is annoying to him and his partners, he declares, is when, after going to large expense and consequent trouble, their projects are interfered with at the eleventh hour.

BOY ASKS GARRISON FOR A "DOG OF WAR"

Writes to Secretary for "Scotch Collie" Pup from Uncle Sam's Kennel.

[From The Tribune Bureau.] Washington, Dec. 23.—There's a little chap up in Fordyce, Penn., who wants a dog—Scotch collie preferred, with little brother's indorsement of the choice—and hearing from his dad that Secretary Garrison had a lot of "dogs of war" he wrote the head of the War Department as follows:

"Fordyce, Pa., December 22, 1913. "Mr. Secy of War, Washington, D. C. "Dear Sir: Me and my little brother would like to have a dog for a Christmas present."

"Papa says you have plenty of war dogs. Will you send us a little pup? A Scotch collie would be the best. I am 9 years old and my little brother is for years old. "MR. RAY G. MORRIS."

All the official dogs of war are busy just now, so Mr. Garrison sent this reply: "Mr. Ray G. Morris, Fordyce, Penn. "My Dear Sir: I received your letter of December 22, 1913. Your papa told you the truth when he said I had war dogs, but he made a mistake when he said I had plenty. I have some, but none to spare, and am very sorry that I cannot send you what you ask for. Besides, there is not a Scotch collie attached to the army. If I see one running loose anywhere, I will try to catch him for you. I do hope you will get a dog somewhere for Christmas. Sincerely yours, "LINDLEY M. GARRISON, "Secretary of War."

Belmont Wins Big Suit.

Justice Van Sicken, of the Supreme Court, 3d Department, yesterday handed down his decision in the case of Clarence H. Verner and the Continental Securities Company against August Belmont and the other directors of the Interborough Rapid Transit Company. The defendants win and get costs and allowances. The proceeding was instituted to compel the Interborough and its directors to account for 15,000 shares of stock which were voted Mr. Belmont for financing the building of the subway. About \$7,000,000 was involved.

BETHELL BALKS AT TELEPHONE INQUIRY

Like Company's Counsel, He Seems to Know Little of His Corporation.

SUBPENA ISSUED; THEN HE APPEARS

Says It Is Impossible to Give Figures as to Business or Rates in City.

Union N. Bethell, president of the New York Telephone Company, was a witness yesterday before the Public Service Commission. He did not attend until a subpoena had been issued for him and a process server had gone to the office of the company, No. 15 Dey street. The paper was not served, for when the messenger from the commission reached the building he was informed that Mr. Bethell would testify voluntarily.

The president of the telephone company gave little aid to the commission in its effort to ascertain the income and expenses of the concern in this city. Mr. Bethell took the same attitude which John L. Swayze, counsel for the company, had maintained in the previous hearing. He said it was impossible to furnish facts and figures for New York City alone, as the territory was only part of a district in the bookkeeping of the company. Much ill feeling developed during the hearing between the witness and M. S. Decker, chairman of the commission.

When the session opened Mr. Swayze said that it would be impossible for the commission to get in touch with Mr. Bethell.

"I tried to get Mr. Bethell last night," he said, "but he was not at his office nor at his home and I could not learn where he was. It will be impossible to get Mr. Bethell here to-day."

M. H. Winkler, counsel for business and civic bodies which are fighting for lower telephone rates, then asked that a subpoena be issued for the telephone company executive, as he seemed to be the only person who could furnish the information which the commission desired.

Mr. Bethell, accompanied by his brother, Frank H. Bethell, vice-president of the telephone company, and Mr. Swayze appeared at the hearing soon after 2 o'clock. When Mr. Bethell was put on the stand, Mr. Winkler asked:

"Considering the report, can you give us an approximate idea of the telephone investment up to this time?"

"I cannot," said Mr. Bethell. "Can you state the amount of the telephone company's last investment in New York for the year 1912?"

"No, I cannot."

"Can you not find some record of expenditures that would give us some information?"

"There are some records, perhaps, but not for the City of New York alone."

Mr. Bethell said that when the New York Telephone Company was formed there was "no stifling of competition, but a better service to the subscribers." He went on to tell how the telephone business had grown since the change from flat rates to message rates, and said he and his associates were trying to make it a model system. There was no widespread dissatisfaction among subscribers, he said.

"There is considerable dissatisfaction in New York City," said the chairman. "Have you had occasion at any time to study actual receipts and expenses in the different kinds of New York City rates?"

"No," replied Mr. Bethell. "What we want to know is what are the receipts, operating expenses and remainder of your business in New York City in any or all rates," said the chairman.

"It is my impression," answered President Bethell, "that that cannot be done." "You have some method of getting information I want, and I know about it," said Chairman Decker.

"How do you know about it?" asked President Bethell. "Do not argue with me," said the chairman.

"Are you holding me up to scorn?" asked Mr. Bethell. "No," replied Chairman Decker. "I am sitting here absolutely impartial."

After Mr. Bethell had refused to compare rates in New York and Chicago the hearing was postponed until January 5.

Mr. Bethell stated after the hearing that he had been perfectly willing to appear before the commission. He said that he had attended the New England dinner Monday night at the Waldorf and had remained in the hotel overnight. It was due to this fact, he said, that his lawyer had been unable to inform him that the commission wished to have him testify.

On the motion of Benno Loewy, and with the consent of Frank E. Carstarphen, Assistant United States District Attorney, Commissioner Shields dismissed yesterday the complaint and discharged the bail in the cases of Victor Neustadt, president and treasurer of Victor Neustadt, Inc., of No. 292 Franklin street, importers of Bohemian beers, and of William Meyer. The men were arrested on December 3 on a charge of being concerned in a systematic conspiracy to defraud the government out of full duty on foreign beers.

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There is a beautiful apartment house at 11 East 68th Street. We know, because we built it, and whilst we are not in the renting business, we take this opportunity to commend it to your attention as an excuse for talking about ourselves. The fact is, the Architect who designed this apartment building is Mr. Herbert Lucas, and it is the third building we have constructed for Mr. Lucas in this city. Obviously, Mr. Lucas has had plenty of time to find us out, and the fact that he has employed us three times should be sufficient to induce any Owner to employ us once. Incidentally, this building is of a superb character, ideal in all of those respects which make a city residence desirable, and we believe there are still a few apartments vacant. Let us suggest that you take a look at them. THOMPSON-STARETT COMPANY Building Construction

The Most Useful Christmas Gift of All. A Box of Holeproof Hosiery For Men, Women and Children Packed in a Handsome Christmas Box. They mean comfort and freedom from holes and hosiery expense for six months, or until next July. What more useful or welcome gift for any man, woman or child to receive? 6 pairs are guaranteed to wear 6 months. For men, 6 pairs, \$1.50; Mercerized, \$2; Silk Lustré, \$3. Six pairs for Women and Children, \$2; Silk Lisle for Women, \$3. Women's Silk Holeproof, 3 pairs guaranteed for three months, \$1. We are New York Agents. Mail and Phone Orders Promptly Filled. Brill Brothers BROADWAY at 49th St. 279 BROADWAY, near Chambers St. 47 CORTLANDT ST., near Greenwich. 125TH STREET at 3d Av. UNION SQUARE, 14th Street, West of Broadway. NEW YORK CITY.

Do You Realize what "Your-Watch-is-Your-Time-Table" means to you? It means that any hour from 7 A. M. until 10 P. M. and at midnight, "Every Hour, On the Hour," a fast train leaves Liberty Street Terminal—Downtown—of the New Jersey Central for Philadelphia. Just glance at your watch, and you have the time of the next train. Uptown at West 23d Street, ten minutes before the hour. Remember this, and see how convenient it is the next time you go to Philadelphia. The New Jersey Central a la carte Dining Car Service at dining hours is of exceptional excellence. The \$1.00 Table d'Hote dinner on 5 and 6 P. M. trains cannot be excelled. TRY IT.