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CHAIRMAN IS QUESTIONED

Canal Commissioner Shonts Interrogated.

GETS A BIG SALORY

Receives $12,000 From Clover Leaf Railroad for Doing Nothing.

TELLS OF CANAL CONDITION

Shonts is Called Before Senate Canal Committee and Admits He Gets Salary From Railroad, Which in Government Officials In Unlawful.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Theodore P. Shonts, chairman of the Isthmian Canal Commission, admitted to the Senate Inter-Oceanic Canal Committee that he draws $12,000 annually as president of the Clover Leaf aRilroad, though he admitted beyond receiving the reports of the other officials he devoted no time to it's interests. He receives $30,000 annually as chairman of the Canal Commission. Shonts testified that of 2100 houses left by the French about 1000 are now in good condition. Shonts said the houses for the laborers and other purposes, and the food supplies were much better than is usually provided for such purposes in railroad construction work in this country. Shonts said where the camps were located, the surrounding ground was drained and vegetation cut down to make conditions healthful. The water supply is drawn from the Rio Grande river and imponded near Ancon for use on the Panama side. Shonts denied he had ever criticized Chief Engineer Wallace for dilatoriness. Senator Gorman conducted an extended examination of Shonts concerning the conditions at the time Stevens took control. He showed that Stevens had increased the pay-roll from 8000 to 13,000 men within three months without doing anything toward digging the canal. Gorman brought out from the witness than the government had paid for the importation of women into the Canal Zone, the women being the families of laborers from Martinique. The canal paid $7 a head for these women and Gorman asked in what manner it was recovered. "We don't get it back, it is a gratuity," said Shonts.

NO INFORMATION.

French Embassy in Dark as to Government's Venezuelan Policy.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—At a late hour tonight the French embassy had received no advices regarding the decision of the French government as to Venezuela. This government has given France assurances that neither a boycott on Venezuelan products nor a naval demonstration will in any way modify the confidence of the United States in the sincerity of the assurance of France regarding her compliance with the Monroe doctrine.

"SEE AMERICA FIRST."

Committee Named in Charge of Sight-Seeing Propaganda.

SALT LAKE CITY, Jan. 26.—In charge of the propaganda for increasing the popularity of American sight-seeing tours will be, during the coming year, Robert L. McCormick of Tacoma, Wash., former governor, David R. Francis of Missouri, T. B. Waller of Minneapolis, David Starr Jordan of Stanford University, Irving Howbert of Colorado Springs and Nathan C. Schafer, president of the National Educational Association of Harrisburg, Penn. The gentlemen named comprise the executive committee chosen by the "See America First" conference here today. Fisher Harris of the Salt Lake Commercial Club is named permanent secretary. Temporary headquarters will be maintained in Salt Lake City.

IRREGULAR METHODS.

Shonts Has Hard Time to Conceal His Illegal Transactions.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Gorman severely criticized the lax methods of bookkeeping, citing as an example vouchers covering the transportation of women, which called for the transportation of laborers. Shonts excused the statement of the vouchers on the ground that in reality the women were laborers as many of them were working about hotels, etc.

INCREASE IN REVENUE.

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—The constitutionality of the stock transfer tax law of New York was affirmed today by a decision in the appellate division of the supreme court. About $5,000,000 annual taxes are added to the state revenues by the decision.

REBELS ARE ACTIVE

Revolutionists Actively Appose Advance of Troops.

RIOTING IN SOUTH RUSSIA

Reports State That Revolutionists in Caucasus Are Thoroughly Organized and Several Pitched Battles Have Taken Place—They Are Well Armed.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 26.—Railroad communication with the Caucasus is restored. The revolutionists are obstinately active in opposing the advance of troops and show great force. Several pitched battles have occurred. The revolutionists have cavalry as well as infantry. Two companies of troops, besieged at Kwirili have been disarmed. The captain in command was killed. The revolt has broken out in Northern Caucasia and frequent encounters are reported.

Advices from South Russia state that the inhabitants of several villages are engaged in riot in, making necessary the employment of troops to subdue them.

The government is relaxing repressive measures since January 22d (Red Sunday), and the right of assembly will be restored.

Father Gapon who had been warned not to appear in St. Petersburg until January 23rd is returning to Russia. Leniency will also be extended to several editors arrested for publishing the manifesto of the Workmen's Council.

WATCHED THEM SWEPT TO THEIR DEATH

THREE MEN ON CLIFF SEE 45 PERSONS DROWN

Valencia Only Fifteen Yards Away Men Have Ropes With Them But Make no Attempt to Save the Helpless Passengers.

STAND ON CLIFF AND WATCH MEN AND WOMEN ENGULFED

WHEN SEEN BY FORTY-FIVE PEOPLE ON THE VALENCIA, CHEER WENT UP, AT HOPE OF RESCUE—SHIP WAS ONLY FIFTEEN YARDS FROM BASE OF CLIFF BUT FOR SOME UNKNOWN REASON NO EFFORT WAS MADE TO SAVE THE SURVIVORS, WHO WERE AT LAST ENGULFED.

VICTORIA, Jan. 26.—When the wrecked steamer Valencia broke up Wednesday, three eye witnesses stood fifty yards away, and watched forty-five persons, both men and women clinging to the rigging, swept to their death in one great engulfing wave. The party with ropes and supplies fastended to their backs, struggled over the trail by night, arriving at the wreck Wednesday morning. On reaching the top of the bluff, the wreck was seen below, partly submerged, fifteen yards from the face of the bluff. Below them huddled on the deck house were many survivors. When the party first showed themselves on top of the cliff the passengers began to cheer wildly. They believed rescue was at hand. The realization soon came that assistance could not reach them. The men ashore were unable to do anything and they clung in despair to the rigging. The end came at 12 o'clock when a huge roller swept in and crushed everything to pieces. When the ebb came only the stump of the mast and some spars were seen above the water.

Another survivors of the Valencia has been found in Frank Connors, discovered on Turret Island in a very exhausted condition. This is believed to be the man who was lost on the island.

Picks up Raft.

The steamer Salvor reported at Bamfield Creek tonight that she picked up a raft from the Valencia off Turret Island. On the raft were three bodies which were identified as Wallace, a waiter, Nelson, the third engineer, and an American soldier and marine of the United States ship Concord.

List of Survivors.

The corrected lists of survivors follows:

C. Allison, passenger, 619 Gaultier street, St. Paul; J. Johnson, third cook, 115 Russ street, San Francisco; G. L. Willits, passenger, 10½ Julia street, San Francisco; P. Poivner, fireman, 26 Essex street, San Francisco; G. D. Haraden, passenger, 419½ South Main street, Los Angeles; M. Farprey, quartermaster, 1036 Minna street, San Francisco; P. V. O'Brien, waiter, 235 Stevenson street, San Francisco; K. F. Carrick, first assistant engineer, 1505 Sanchez street, San Francisco; W. D. Johnson, coalpasser, 2945 Pine street, San Francisco; C. F. Luhme, baker, Winchester Hotel, San Francisco; J. Segalos, fireman, 604 Third street, San Francisco; F. Lehn, first assistant freight clerk, 76 Duboce street, San Francisco; Joseph McCaqery, passenger, West St. John, N. B.; J. Walch, waiter, 36 Chattanooga street, San Francisco; A. Hawkins, passenger, 314 Fourth avenue, North Seattle; J. Hoddinott, waiter, 1918 Leavenworth street, San Francisco; Peter Peterson, second officer, 1127 Twentieth street, San Francisco. At Cape Beale, from landed lifeboat: T. McCarthy, boatswain; T. Brown, sailor; W. Goslin, sailor; T. Shields, sailor; J. Marks, sailor; T. Lampen, sailor. At telegraph hut, landed from lifeboat: F. F. Bunker, of San Francisco, recently named assistant superintendent of schools, Seattle, who lost wife and two daughters; J. Ritchey, fireman; Charles Samuel, firstclass passenger, bound for Seattle; Mike Howe, second-class passenger, bound for Seattle; R. Brown, second-class passenger; Yosuki Hosoda, Japanese, from Oakland; T. J. Campbell, Alameda; B. N. Ledhas, fireman; A. Willis, second-class passenger, bound for Spokane. At Toquart, taken from Turret Island: F. Hancock, chief cook; M. Stanslar, fireman; George Long, fireman; one man, name unknown, remains on island.

This makes 37 in all, none women or children. Two men and a boy are reported to have been seen at a camp fire on the beach near Klanewak. When a tug approached shore they made no effort to come down to her. It is not known whether or not they are from the Valencia.

Searching the Coast.

SEATTLE, Jan. 26.—More than one hundred people are now searching the coast of Vancouver within a radius of twenty miles on either side of the wreck of the Valencia with the hope of finding some survivors from the vessel. In order to assist in the search, the Pacific Coast Steamship Company tonight dispatched a tug in command of port Captain Pattersen to the scene of the disaster. Captain Pattersen took with him two Newfoundland dories with fisherman to man them. Captain Pattersen expects to find the weather sufficiently calmed by the time he reaches there to enable him to make a landing.

Parties of men on tugs have been sent out from Victoria and are now on the scene. Indians have been employed to beat the bushes in case any survivors have wandered inland.

Up to the present time 37 men have been saved from the wreck. This leaves 117 still unaccounted for. Some hope is still held out for the last boat to leave the ship. It has not been reported, and it is possible that it has made shore somewhere in the vicinity of the wreck.

The 23 men who were brought to Seattle on the Topeka were sent to hotels by the steamship company to be kept there until they have arranged their plans for the future.

TO REPORT FAVORABLE.

Senate Committee Will Report Favorably on Statehood Bill.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—The Senate committee on territories today authorized a favorable report on the joint Statehood bill passed by the House yesterday. Senator Beveridge, chairman of the committee, said later he would present report in the Senate next Monday. None of the Democratic members of the committee were present when the agreement to take a vote was reached.

Senators Paterson and Frazier reserved the right to present a minority report. The bill was amended in several places, but the amendments related largely to governmental machinery provided by the measure, such as judiciary methods of voting.

FEAR SALE OF ISLAND.

Governor Ide Asks Secretary of War to Deny Rumor.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—The following cablegram has been received by the Secretary of War from General Ide at Manila:

"Natives much disturbed by cable statement that Ambassador Wright has been authorized to negotiate sale of islands to Japan. Authentic denial from you would be useful."

Secretary Taft replied to the cablegram as follows:

"The cable statement referred to in your cablegram has not the slightest vestige of truth. It is not only untrue, but absurdly so."

MANY KILLED.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—The bulletin of interstate commerce show that in the months of July, August and September last, 1003 were killed and 16,386 injured on steam railroads in the United States.

TRY FILIBUSTERING

Democrats Try to Defeat Provision of Deficency Bill.

WAVING EIGHT HOUR LAW

When the Bill to Which Amendment Was Proposed Was Finally Finished, Demand for Separate Vote Was Made and Ordered Taken.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—The first attempt at filbustering during this session occurred in the House today in the Democratic endeavor to defeat the provision of the urgent deficiency bill, waiving the eight-hour law for foreign laborers on the Panama Canal. An amendment placed in the bill in the committee of the whole, after the House had divided many times on every pretext, which the minority leader, Williams, could make, was the cause for the vote. When the bill, to which the amendment was proposed was finally finished, late in the day, a demand for a separate vote and roll call on that amendment was made and ordered, at which time the House adjourned. The vote will occur tomorrow. The only other controversy of the day resulted from the attempt to increase by $115,000, the amount for meat inspection by the department of agriculture. This increase was refused after an animated debate.

LETTERS MADE PUBLIC

Roosevelt Exposes Packers Wrong Methods.

BRIBED A REPORTER

Packers Give Inter-Ocean Reporter Money to Favor Them.

HE HAS NOW LOST HIS JOB

As Soon as the Managing Editor of the Chicago Inter-Ocean is Informed of Reporter's Graft, He Dismisses Him Summarily.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—By authority of the Presilent, the correspondence was made public at the White House tonight relating to the methods alleged to have been employed by the attorneys for the Beef Packers who are under indictments in Chicago on charge of trying to influence public opinion in behalf of the Packers.

The documents consist of a communication made to Attorney-General Moody by United States District Attorney Morrison of Chicago setting out certain alleged facts regarding the payment of a sum of money to a reporter on the Chicago Inter-Ocean by one of the attorneys for the Packers a letter from the Attorney-General to the President, transmitting Mr. Morrison's report, expressing the opinion that no way existed under the law by which the alleged offense could be punished, and the letter from the President to the Attorney-General directing the publication of the correspondence in order that the public might be informed of one situation at least, which the government has to meet in prosecuting the case against the packers.

Is Dismissed.

CHICAGO, Jan. 26.—G. W. Hinman, editor in chief of the Inter-Ocean tonight issued the following statement: "Mr. Hasler, the accused reported ceased tonight to have any connection with this paper. He undertook to report the trial of the Packers under these instructions and no others: 'Tell the truth and treat the Packers fairly'."

NEW OFFICERS CHOSEN.

United Railway Stockholders Hold Election in San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 26.—The stockholders of the United Railways today elected Thornwell Mullaly assistant to the President, and G. F. Chapman, vice-president and general manager. Charles Holbrook was relieved of the office of vice-president, and made chairman of the board of directors. The offices of assistant to the President, and chairman of the board of directors were created today. G. H. Davis of New York was elected a director. Mr. Mullaly is a New York attorney.

EDITOR OF COLLIERS DECLARED NOT GUILTY

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—An unusually sensational trial came to an end today when the jury in the criminal branch of the supreme court reported Norman Hapgood, editor of Colliers' Weekly not guilty of criminal libel. The verdict was rendered ten minutes after the case was given the jury. The charges against Hapgood were brought at the instigation of Judge Joseph M. Deuel, of the court of special sessions based upon an editorial in which the editor criticized Judge Deuel in his connection with Town Topics.

WARE IS GUILTY.

OMAHA, Jan. 26.—The jury, in the trial of Rev. G. C. Ware, returned a verdict of guilty today on charges of conspiracy to defraud the government by means of fraudulent land entries. Ware has been rector of the Episcopal churches in Lead and Deadwood, S. D.

NOW IS CHIEF.

GUAYAQUIL, Jan. 26.—General Alfero, a former President of Ecuador and leader of the recent revolution which overthrew President Garcia, is now supreme chief of the republic. The Cabinet was appointed today.

MUTINY AT VLADIVOSTOK ASSUMES SERIOUS ASPECT

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 26.—That there has been a renewal of the mutiny at Vladivostok is confirmed in a dispatch from that city filed Thursday and received here late tonight. The dispatch indicates the mutiny, which began last Monday had not been subdued and that the situation was far more serious than was the outbreak in November as the mutineers include both the sailors and artilleristi, who are in possession of a battery, well armed with rifles and machine guns as well as having heavy fortress guns.