

GAS ORDINANCE STILL SLUMBERS

PROPOSED LEGISLATION REPOSES IN COMMITTEE

NO ONE CAN EXPLAIN DELAY

Council Pays Slight Attention to the Mayor's Urgent Request for Action—Councilmen Have Not Even Read Document

There are now on your files drafts of ordinances prepared by the city attorney requiring all gas, electric and telephone companies doing business in this city to make sworn statements of their annual revenues and expenditures and of the cost and present value of their property and plants, and also imposing certain regulations upon the sale and use of gas and electric light.

This statement was part of the first message from Mayor McAleer to the council and was sent to that body simultaneously with the organization of the new city government at the beginning of the present year.

The proposed ordinance provided that at a prescribed time each year the council should hear evidence concerning the gas business and fix a rate for that year. It also provided for the creation of the office of inspector of gas meters, whose duty it was to put all the regulations adopted by the council into operation.

The ordinance as presented by the city attorney provided a complete scheme whereby the city would exercise control over gas companies operating in the city.

The proposed ordinance was referred to the committee of the whole by the council. There it has remained in cobwebby obscurity ever since. Several members of the council were asked yesterday what they proposed to do about the ordinance. Their replies are given below.

Councilman Hiller: "I desire to proceed carefully in this matter. I feel that this is something in which the people of the ward I represent are vitally interested and I want to execute their will. I have consulted with some of my constituents and shall talk with others before I will be ready to take definite action upon the proposed ordinance."

Councilman Kern excused himself on the ground that the brick troubles of the city had taken up nearly all his time since the beginning of the year. "Owing to my sewer committee duties and the brick fight," said Mr. Kern, "I have paid no attention to the proposed ordinance since it was submitted to the committee of the whole. I am ready to take the question up any time the other members of the council are willing."

Lost Child Found in Chicago

CHICAGO, Feb. 24.—After a search extending over the United States, five-year-old Henrietta Batch of Yakima, Wash., was found by the police today in this city. Some time ago Henrietta's sister eloped with a professional hypnotist. The couple took the child with them. Recently the hypnotist was arrested at Seattle and said he had left the child in Chicago.

HERALD CIRCULATION IN LOS ANGELES

Attention of the public is called to the fact that the circulation of The Herald in the city of Los Angeles is greater than that of the Examiner and second only to that of the Times. This circulation is permanent, delivered at the homes and not thrown about as specimen copies or swept into the gutters. The Herald, as the oldest morning newspaper in Los Angeles, is more widely read than most of its contemporaries, and its value as an advertising medium is correspondingly greater.

DR. HARPER'S PHYSICIANS SAY HE WILL RECOVER

Has Passed the Crisis Following the Operation and His Condition is Excellent

CHICAGO, Feb. 24.—President Harper of the University of Chicago passed through the crisis of the after effects of the operation. At the hospital it was said that Dr. Harper had a good night and was resting quietly. Tonight the physicians in charge of Dr. Harper's case issued a bulletin saying that his condition is excellent and that he will recover from the effects of the operation. No further bulletins will be issued unless unfavorable symptoms arise.

EMMONS MAKING BRAVE BATTLE FOR HIS LIFE

Physicians Feared the End Would Come Last Night, but There Was No Change

SACRAMENTO, Feb. 24.—Senator Emmons is displaying extraordinary vitality. Although his physicians feared today that he might not be able to survive the night, there has been no decided change for the worse during the past few hours.

COFFIN BELIEVED TO BE JOHN PAUL JONES'

Leadon Casket Opened in Ambassador Porter's Presence, but Name Plate is Undecipherable

PARIS, Feb. 24.—A leadon coffin which is believed to contain the body of John Paul Jones was opened in the presence of Ambassador Porter for identification. The copper name plate is so badly worn as to be undecipherable.

The coffin was found sixteen feet below a grain shed at 14 Rue Grange aux Belles. A foreign Protestant cemetery formerly was in that quarter.

MAN REACHES ZENITH BEFORE HE IS FORTY

Dr. Oeler Reiterates Statement Regarding Period of Creative Usefulness

BALTIMORE, Feb. 24.—William Oeler today reiterated his statement that the creative usefulness of a man reached its zenith before he had passed his fortieth birthday.

IRVING'S FRIENDS ARE ALARMED AT ILLNESS

Fears Not Allayed by Reports That He is "Slightly Better"

LONDON, Feb. 24.—Sir Henry Irving's condition, according to this morning's bulletin, has "slightly changed for the better." Despite the reassuring reports, the actor's illness causes alarm among his friends. He had been showing signs of a breakdown for some weeks and had been fighting off the threatened collapse by means of strichnine and other drugs.

MISS CROCKER BECOMES MISTRESS OF ESTATE

Daughter of Late Capitalist Comes Into Possession of Property Worth Over Seven Million Dollars

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 24.—Miss Jennie Adeline Crocker, daughter of the late Charles F. Crocker, today attained her eighteenth year, becoming mistress of her one-third share of her father's estate. Her fortune is estimated at between \$7,000,000 and \$9,000,000 in realty and dividend-bearing securities.

CUSTER MASSACRE'S LAST SURVIVOR IN TROUBLE

William McGree Found Guilty of Manslaughter in the First Degree

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—William McGree, said to be the last white survivor of the Custer massacre, was found guilty of manslaughter in the first degree tonight and was remanded for sentence. He was accused of fatally stabbing Frank Mitchell.

Santa Clara Railway Sued

SAN JOSE, Cal., Feb. 24.—Attorney General Webb today began action in the superior court to compel R. F. Parkinson, manager of the Santa Clara Interurban railway, to appear and explain to the court why he has assumed franchises and privileges through the town of Palo Alto that have not been legally granted him, and also asking for an injunction restraining Parkinson from proceeding with the construction of an electric road through that town.

MOUJIKS BENT ON SEIZING LAND

BELIEVE CZAR WILL ORDER ITS DIVISION

AGRARIAN TROUBLES FEARED

Russian Peasants Convinced That Their "Little Father" Will Create New Distribution of the Soil

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 25, 2:15 a. m.—The beginning of a dangerous movement has been observed among the peasantry of some of the southern provinces, where revolutionary agitators are circulating reports that the emperor will on March 4th issue a manifesto providing for a general division of lands. A new allotment has been the dream of the moujiks ever since emancipation, and according to private reports the stories have spread like wildfire and are implicitly believed.

When once the peasantry becomes possessed of the idea that the emperor has willed a division of land it will be exceedingly difficult to disabuse their minds, and agrarian troubles on a large scale are feared. The moujiks are likely to turn on the proprietors as they did several years ago in the provinces of Saratoff and Poltava, when anarchy for some time reigned.

Are Told the War is Over

Among the reservists agitators are spreading the story that the war is over. A case is cited which occurred a fortnight ago at Blazan, where 200 reservists who had been called on to fight told the officer they did not intend to serve. "The war is over," said the leader. "We know you simply want to make money out of a contract for feeding us. We will not serve," and off they marched. An instance is also given of reservists who actually left a railway train after they had been started for the front.

Private reports also leave no room for doubt that the strike in the whole region below Moscow are almost entirely political in character. The situation generally in the south of Russia is becoming worse instead of better and contains many factors which are causing the authorities the greatest alarm. The possibility of the necessity for the dispatch of additional troops to the Caucasus is already being considered.

REVIEWS THE SITUATION

Polish Councillor Considers Position Is Growing Better

WARSAW, Feb. 24.—Imperial Councillor Mipenkein, who, because of the illness of Governor General Tcherkoff, is virtually acting as governor general of Poland, today received the correspondent of the Associated Press and made a statement regarding the situation in Poland. He said that, with the exception of Warsaw, the condition of affairs throughout Poland was improving; that strikers were returning to work and disturbances decreasing. A dispatch from Lodz this morning, he said, announced that 45,000 men were working in 402 factories. In the coal district of Sosnowice some mines are beginning to work.

Regarding Warsaw the councillor said the situation was very unsatisfactory. The strikers returned to work one day and walked out the next. The most serious matter at the present moment was the strike on the Vienna and Vistula roads, both of which belong to the government. Therefore, it is necessary to obtain permission from St. Petersburg before the demand of the workmen for a ten-hour day and higher wages can be guaranteed. A favorable answer, however, is expected to be forthcoming and the strike may be ended tonight.

Do Not Know What They Want

Speaking generally, the councillor said: "The whole strike movement is in the nature of an epidemic. Starting from St. Petersburg, it has ravaged other parts of the empire. A strike in Russia is a very different matter from a similar movement in Great Britain or Germany, where the workmen are educated, while in Russia only a few are able to read or understand what they are demanding. Such a condition tends greatly to complicate the situation, and renders a settlement much more difficult."

Government Concedes Demands

The governor of Warsaw has been notified by the Warsaw and Vienna railway that the railway council at St. Petersburg consented to increase wages of employes of the road this year by a sum of \$325,000. The men have been

JAPAN SOUGHT OUR MEDIATION

PEACE RUMORS WERE NOT UNFOUNDED

RUSSIA INFORMALLY ADVISED

Nothing Said About indemnity but Territorial Propositions, as Bases for Further Negotiations, Were Submitted

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—Despite denials it can be stated that the first direct move toward peace in the far eastern war has been made by one of the belligerents, and that belligerent is Japan. The Japanese overtures, while apparently informal, were addressed first to the United States and were subsequently communicated by Secretary Hay, at the president's direction, to the Russian government.

These terms were communicated to President Roosevelt by Kogoro Takihira, Japanese minister in Washington, who explained that his government was willing to treat for peace upon their acceptance by Russia as a basis of further negotiation.

Nothing was said by Takihira about indemnity from Russia, and it was evident that Japan was not willing to ask her enemy to submit to that humiliation. Nor did the Japanese envoy ask Roosevelt to make these peace terms known to Russia.

Roosevelt did not ask Takihira if it was desired that the peace suggestions he had submitted be laid before the Russian government, through the medium of the United States, but, after a conference with secretary Hay the president decided it was only right and proper that what the Japanese minister had said should be communicated to St. Petersburg.

Accordingly Hay telegraphed to the United States ambassador at the Russian capital the substance of the conversation between the president and the Japanese minister, and instructed him to take an early opportunity of outlining the Japanese attitude to the czar's minister for foreign affairs. The ambassador was cautioned to do this informally.

EXPECT HEAVY FIGHTING

Important Operations Thought to Be Now in Progress

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 25, 2 a. m.—Official dispatches given out today dispose of the rumor of General Kurapatkin's retirement from the Shakh, but taken in connection with the Associated Press Tshikhetchen dispatch, show that operations of an important nature are in progress in the mountain regions to the eastward.

The movement was precipitated by the Russians, who last week sent out two divisions and occupied well advanced positions. The Japanese attacked these positions in force, the Russians retired slowly fighting, and Thursday evening were driven within their fortified line. The latest dispatches prophesied heavy fighting on Friday.

The war office attaches considerable importance to the blowing up of the bridge south of Haicheng and predicts it will interrupt the transportation of munitions of war for some time.

JAPANESE CLOSING IN

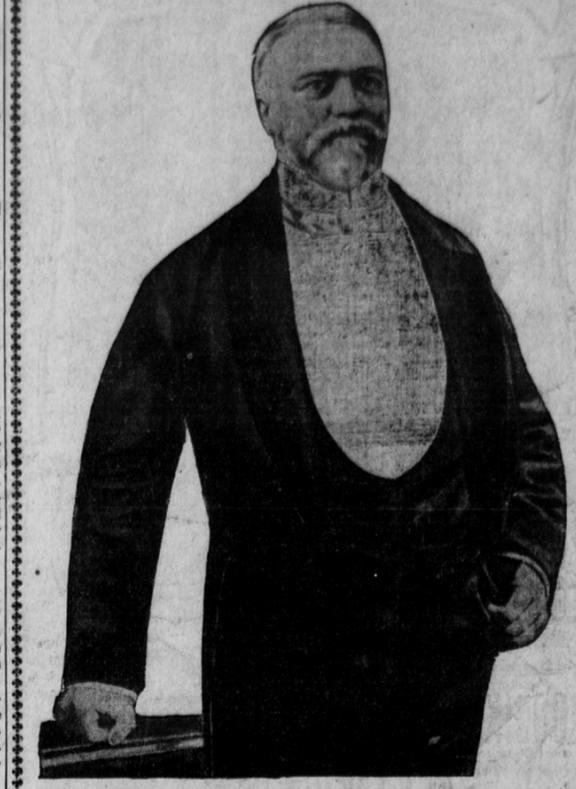
Thought to Be Resuming Original Flanking Tactics

SHENKING, Manchuria, via Mukden, Feb. 24.—It is reported here that the Japanese are closing in on the Russian east flank. As a result of this movement it is possible that there will be either a general engagement or at least a counter movement by the Russians along some part of the line, especially if, as is thought, the Japanese have returned to their original tactics of making flank movements from the mountains. The early advent of spring now makes possible operations in and from the mountainous districts.

For the past three weeks the Russians have suffered no material disturbance, with the exception of a comparatively unimportant damage to the railroad and to a bridge near Kuan-chia pass, as the result of Japanese raids, aided, it is alleged, by Chinese bandits.

Since the receipt of news of the movement of an unidentified armed force of unknown numbers behind the Russian right wing, the Russians have taken measures for the purpose of minimizing the opportunities for brigandage, in the belief that Chinese bandits are to some extent being organized and directed by Japanese cavalry.

FAMOUS PHILANTHROPIST WHOM VANDIVER IS ATTACKING



ANDREW CARNEGIE

GOING FOR THE ARMOR TRUST

VANDIVER ASKS ABOUT THAT CRIMINAL SUIT

CARNEGIE PROFITS EXPOSED

Claims That Secretary Morton Gave Contracts to Combine in Face of Much Lower Independent Bids

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—Representative Vandiver of Missouri today introduced the following resolution in the house:

"Resolved, That the attorney general inform the house at his earliest convenience whether or not any proceedings have been taken, either civil or criminal, against the armor plate trust; and, further, "Resolved, That the attorney general also inform the house what steps have been taken by him to determine whether or not the said armor plate trust should be prosecuted for violation of the United States anti-trust statute of July 2, 1890, or other United States statutes against trusts and combines in restraint of trade."

Price Charged and Actual Cost

A preamble to the resolution recited that on September 6, 1901, the attorney general was petitioned to institute civil and criminal proceedings against the Carnegie Steel company and the Bethlehem Steel company, as combining and constituting what the petition alleged was an armor plate trust for controlling the price of armor plate, and that there was filed with the attorney general and with the president a statement of facts and evidence showing a conspiracy, whereby the trade and commerce in armor plate had been monopolized and the armor plate trust enabled to sell many thousand tons of armor plate to the United States government at prices ranging from \$445 to \$520 a ton, after a duly appointed board of expert naval constructors had reported that the actual cost of the armor did not exceed \$187 a ton.

Divided the Contracts

The preamble further alleges an agreement between the Carnegie and Bethlehem companies as to prices and that they have divided the contracts of the government between themselves, each bidding lower than the other for one-half of the armor required at any time by the government. Additional evidence of this conspiracy to prevent any open competition in bids for armor plate, the preamble continues, has been shown in the bearing of the present secretary of the navy, when, on January 26, 1905, Secretary Morton stated to the house committee on civil affairs that the bids of the Bethlehem and Carnegie companies on 7820 tons of armor plate which had been opened on January 12 last, were discovered to be identical.

In spite of this accumulative evidence of conspiracy in restraint of trade, the preamble says, the secretary of the navy awarded contracts to these two companies at \$453 a ton, when an independent company outside of the trust had offered to furnish exactly the same armor for \$398 a ton, thus, the preamble says, increasing the cost to the government of \$55 a ton in order to favor the trust and "indicating the power of the influence which the aforesaid armor plate trust has acquired over the government and officials of the United States."

THE DAY'S NEWS

FORECAST Southern California: Fair Saturday; light west winds. Maximum temperature in Los Angeles yesterday, 77 degrees; minimum, 51 degrees.

- 1—Ordinance still slumbers. 2—Publishes Mrs. Davis' note. 3—Objects to stage career. 4—Southern California news. 5—Will prosecute oil trust's men. 6—Editorial. 7—Chinese much mortified. 8—9—Classified advertisements. 10—Sports. 11—Markets. 12—Fears weird spirits.

EASTERN

Congressman Vandiver wants to know what proceedings, civil or criminal, have been taken against the armor plate trust. Statehood bill is at standstill in the senate, oratory preventing possibility of action. Prosecution of Prairie Oil company's employes in Kansas to be begun.

FOREIGN

Russian peasants believe that czar is issuing manifesto decreeing division of the land. Acting governor general of Poland "thinks that conditions are improving everywhere except at Warsaw.

COAST

Senator Emmons shows remarkable vitality, and life is not yet despaired of. One person killed and another wounded in shooting affray at Port Bragg. Miss Crocker comes into possession of her fortune, amounting to over seven millions.

LOCAL

City will enter into contract for sale and purchase of street sweepings. Gas ordinance slumbers in committee of the whole and councilmen say they do not know what they will do.

CHILD MISSING; MOTHER FRANTIC

ELEVEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL HAS DISAPPEARED

Vivian O'Neill Runs Away in the Night, Leaving a Note Saying That She Had Gone to Get Work

Mrs. O'Neill of 609 East Twenty-third street asked the police early this morning to help her find her 11-year-old daughter who ran away from home some time last night.

Little Vivian had gone to bed at 8 o'clock as usual, but a mother's intuition led Mrs. O'Neill to get up about 1:30 o'clock and go to her young daughter's room to see if all was well. To her horror the room was empty, and on the table lay a note which read: "Dear Mamma, I am going away to work. You need not try to find me because you cannot. I have taken a dollar of your money, but will come back in three months and pay it back to you. Your daughter, Vivian."

The mother, is prostrated with grief and cannot imagine what has caused her child to leave her home. She describes Vivian as 11 years old, rather large for her age, with dark grey eyes and light hair. She thinks that the little girl wore a red dress and red hat when she ran away.

HOUSE PASSES LUKENS BILL TAXING CORPORATIONS

This Measure Provides That They Shall Pay an Annual License Fee of Ten Dollars

SACRAMENTO, Feb. 24.—An annual license tax of \$10 is imposed on all corporations in the Lukens bill, passed by the assembly tonight.

Another measure by Lukens, which was passed by the senate, proposes to place a tax of 2 per cent on the gross premiums of fire insurance companies organized outside of the state, and 1 per cent on premiums of life insurance companies not organized under the laws of the state.

Copper Properties to Be Sold

BLACK FOOT, Idaho, Feb. 24.—Judge Stevens of the district court signed an order today directing Receivers Clark and Mathews to sell at public auction all of the properties of the Great White Knob Copper company at Mackay, Idaho. The value of the property is estimated at \$2,800,000. The receivers have set the sale for March 18 at Mackay, Idaho.

Turkish Troops Mutiny

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 24.—A battalion of 950 Turkish troops, while on the way to reinforce the garrison of Yemen, Arabia, mutined on board the Greek steamer Epiros, seized and imprisoned their officers and compelled the commander of the Epiros to put back to Suez. The mutineers demand that they be sent back to their homes.

SIMPLON TUNNEL DRIVEN THROUGH

SWISS AND ITALIAN WORKERS JOIN HANDS

Labor of More Than Seven Years is Brought to Final Success Amid Universal National Rejoicing

GONDO, Switzerland, Feb. 24.—The piercing of the Simplon tunnel through the Alps was completed at 7:20 o'clock this morning. The work was commenced in 1898.

The meeting of the two boring parties, Swiss and Italian, was signaled throughout Switzerland by ringing of church bells and cannon salutes. Many unexpected obstacles were encountered, the most serious being hot springs which threatened to wreck the whole enterprise, and a temperature which at one time rose to 131 degrees, making a continuance of the work impossible until the engineers found means of cooling the atmosphere.

Now the borers have met, it will enable the water accumulated in the north gallery to be drawn off. The work of preparing the tunnel for a permanent railway will be rushed as rapidly as possible, and it is hoped to inaugurate the tunnel about March 20.

Yet Another Tunnel

The piercing of the Simplon is regarded as being one of the engineering achievements of the age. Many difficulties were encountered and overcome. The length of the tunnel from Briga, in Switzerland, to Izzelle, on the Italian side of the mountain, is about twelve miles. Work was begun over seven years ago and, according to contract, the tunnel must be ready for traffic on May 15 next.

The Swiss and Italian governments jointly financed the undertaking, share and share alike, at a cost of \$15,000,000. As soon as the boring is thoroughly completed and the track laid a smaller tunnel is to be constructed, parallel to the large one, which will be increased so as to permit of traffic both ways at the same time.

REMEDY CAUSES DEATH

Fatal Case of Lockjaw Attributed to "Toothache Paste"

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—Martha Helms, 10 years old, after suffering intensely from tetanus, is dead at a Harlem hospital. The surgeons assert that the fatal lockjaw could be traced directly to some "toothache paste" which the child used last Saturday. They assert that the paste contained creosote, which inflamed the girl's gums and, being absorbed, so excited her sensitive nervous organization that tetanus resulted.

Changes on Santa Fe

CHICAGO, Feb. 24.—Announcement was made today of the appointment of F. B. Houghton to be assistant traffic manager of the Santa Fe system to succeed J. E. Gorman, recently made freight traffic manager. At present Mr. Houghton is assistant general freight agent of the coast lines of the Santa Fe, with headquarters in San Francisco.