

# THE RIVER PRESS.

Vol. XXXI.

Fort Benton, Montana, Wednesday, May 24, 1911.

No. 31

## HOMES FOR SETTLERS.

Reclamation Service Calls Attention To Western Projects.

CHICAGO, May 22.—Vigorous efforts to settle lands in western states under government irrigation projects have begun from the headquarters in Chicago, which has sent out circulars not only giving the location of new projects where farms are open for entry, but the size of the units available and the costs of water rights. The effort to check the emigration to Canada will be difficult because of the relative cost of water rights, which on the 3,000,000 acre irrigation block of the Canadian Pacific railroad is only 50 cents per year per acre. The reclamation service circular states:

The rush of homeseekers to the west promises to be greater this year than ever before. The following shows the projects the number of farms available for entry, the size of the farm units and the cost of water right:

Huntley project, Montana, 40 acres, cost of water right per acre, \$34.

Sun River project, Montana, 40 and 80 acres, \$30.

Umatilla project, Oregon, 20 and 40 acres, \$60.

Belle Fourche project, South Dakota 40 and 80 acres, \$38.

Shoshone project, Wyoming, 40 and 80 acres, \$46.

Regarding the value of irrigated land Prof. F. H. Newell, director of the reclamation service said: "The returns from an irrigated farm when intensive agriculture is adopted should be \$40 per acre, net. Capitalize these crops and allow the agriculturist an annual return of 20 per cent, this means irrigated lands will be worth \$200 per acre."

## Resents Presidential Dictation.

WASHINGTON, May 22.—Senator Nelson of Minnesota, attacked President Taft today before the senate finance committee for seeking to prevent the senate from amending the Canadian reciprocity bill. He declared that the constitution placed with the senate part of the treaty making power of the country and offered several amendments to the measure.

Senator Nelson's amendments would reduce about one-half of the existing tariff rates on most farm products. To put farm products on the free list, he declared, was legislating directly against the farmers.

"President Taft is evading the constitution of the United States," he asserted, "when he tries to force the senate to accept this agreement as it was presented. He is trifling with the senate of the United States."

## Insurance Men Form Trust.

CHICAGO, May 22.—Sixty or more of the casualty insurance companies in the United States and six foreign concerns doing business in this country, have combined to raise rates, according to a news article in the Tribune today.

As a result, employers desiring the liability insurance must pay increases varying from 15 to 140 per cent. The attorney general has, it is reported, instituted an inquiry into this alleged trust.

## Peace Reigns in Mexico.

JUAREZ, May 21.—Officially designated representatives of the Mexican government and the revolutionists at 10 o'clock tonight signed a peace agreement at the custom house here intended to end the hostilities which have been waged in Mexico for the last six months.

The actual signing of the agreement took place under most extraordinary circumstances tonight on the steps of the custom house. When the peace commissioners arrived they found the door of the custom house locked and no one there to let them in. Accordingly, they gathered on the steps of the building, and, while newspaper men held matches, fountain pens were produced and the document signed. Four automobiles turned their searchlights on the scene, and when the signatures were affixed the commissioners of both sides embraced joyfully, while a small crowd that had collected shouted "Viva la paz!"

## Will Probe Livestock Rates.

WASHINGTON, May 20.—Complaints among the great meat packing interests of the middle west of discrimination in freight rates on cattle as between the big packers have led the interstate commerce commission to undertake a complete threshing out of the whole question of livestock rates from the west and southwest. As a step toward this investigation, which will probably not be concluded until next fall, the commission today suspended, from May 24 to September 21 next, proposed new rates from Fort

Worth and other Texas points to Oklahoma City. One of the principles in the controversy involves the right of the commission to suspend a new rate which is a reduction from the existing rate.

## Suit Against Davis Heirs.

BOSTON, May 20.—Joseph A. Coram of Brookline, Mass., won another point in his fight against the trustees and administrators of the estate of the late Andrew J. Davis, the Butte millionaire, in a decision handed down by the supreme court today. The action is one of which Mr. Coram seeks to be reimbursed for about \$125,000 spent by him on behalf of various heirs in connection with the litigation over the estate.

## Fatal Airship Accident.

PARIS, May 21.—France paid a terrible toll today for her magnificent endeavor to attain supremacy of the air, when a monoplane, the driver of which had lost control, plunged into a group of cabinet members who had gathered to witness the start of the race from Paris to Madrid, killing the minister of war and injuring the prime minister, his son and a well known sportsman.

## Many Fatalities From Heat.

CHICAGO, May 20.—Light showers in the afternoon and a heavy electrical storm before sundown brought an end today to the week of burning hot weather which has prostrated citizens in numbers previously unheard of at this time of the year. Fifty-three babies under one year, and most of them only a few weeks old, died during the four days of extreme heat from May 16 to May 19, inclusive.

The mortuary records showed that the babies died almost as rapidly as they came. Unseasonable heat, spoiled milk, bad ventilation and improper care were given by physicians as causes of death.

The police also announced that nearly a score of children, boys and girls from 10 to 14 years old, had been reported missing during the hot days. The police believe many of them have wandered from the city.

## Indicted Men Plead Guilty.

HELENA, May 18.—Twelve men indicted by the federal grand jury pleaded guilty in the federal court today. D. W. Thornberg, who came here from North Carolina, and Carl Olson were the men with the hard-luck story. Thornberg came to Montana with his wife and six children to locate. In western Montana he met two Indians, who gave him money to buy them liquor. Ignorant of the law, he did it, and was arrested and indicted. He was given 60 days in jail and \$100 fine, the minimum sentence. Carl Olson met his Indian in Helena, and gave him whiskey, being in ignorance of the law. He got the same sentence as Thornberg.

James H. Johnson pleaded guilty to burglarizing the Clancy postoffice in January and was given 15 months at Leavenworth and a fine of \$200.

The following persons pleaded guilty either of introducing whiskey on the Flathead Indian reservation or to selling liquor to Flathead Indians, and were each sentenced to serve 60 days in the county jail and fined \$100: Patrick Hart, David Linn, Frank Shay, Joe McCaskell, Tom Coleon, George Lebeau, J. P. Mobley and Frank Williams.

Twenty-year-old Ben Phillips pleaded guilty to forging an indorsement and passing a check made out to Ben Phipps, and was given 90 days in the county jail and fined \$100. Phillips comes from Libby.

Colgers Arbello pleaded not guilty to murdering Peter Beauchan on the Fort Belknap Indian reservation January 25 last.

HELENA, May 21.—Harry Adams and Frank Burdge would not now be in the county jail on two charges of horse stealing had not a man from Wardner, Idaho, recognized them as they were leaving Helena this morning on saddle horses rented at Avon yesterday. The Idaho man was standing in the doorway of a livery stable when the two passed. He promptly announced they were the same pair that 10 days ago rented a team and wagon at Wardner and fled eastward until forced to abandon the outfit in the fire-swept district of western Montana.

BUTTE, May 21.—Samuel L. Ratcliffe, a well known brewery man of this city, was found dead in his potato patch by his wife, who had gone out to visit him this afternoon at his ranch in the valley below Butte. The body was still warm when found by Mrs. Ratcliffe. Death resulted from apoplexy.

## ATTACK LUMBER TRUST.

Federal Authorities Allege Conspiracy to Rob Consumers.

NEW YORK, May 19.—Sweeping charges of a gigantic conspiracy to maintain high prices, to blacklist concerns not regarded as "proper" trade, and to violate generally the Sherman anti-trust law, are made in government suit filed by Attorney General Wickersham in the United States court here today against the so-called lumber trust.

Ten trade organizations and more than 150 individuals are named as defendants in the suit, which may be the first of several planned by the department of justice against combinations of retailers in staple commodities and the necessities of life, to prevent the ultimate consumer from buying anywhere except from local retailers.

The government suit is replete with sensational allegations and it is asserted that builders and consumers of lumber the country over are at the mercy of the retailers organization.

The suit filed today is against the Eastern States Retail Lumber Dealers' association, which is the central body of nine local organizations covering five states, the District of Columbia and the cities of Baltimore and Philadelphia.

This is the government's first anti-trust suit conforming to the supreme court's Standard Oil decision in that it alleges "undue and unreasonable restraint" of the trade between consumers and manufacturers. It is the evident purpose of the plea to confine the charge largely to that feature, small stress being placed on the restraint of trade among the conspirators themselves.

## Extremes of Temperature.

WASHINGTON, May 19.—Snow was falling this morning in Yellowstone park and it was freezing in Wyoming and Nevada, while the middle west and eastern states were sweltering in the hottest weather of the year. A general break in the hot wave was predicted by the weather experts here today within the next 36 or 48 hours bringing release to the populace of the country. In the large cities the heat has caused many prostrations. Warm weather will continue tonight and Sunday in the eastern states. Considerable cooler weather prevails generally over the eastern slope of the Rocky mountains, caused by a disturbance moving eastward from the north Pacific coast.

## Taft Bosses The Job.

WASHINGTON, May 19.—President Taft is opposed to amendments to the reciprocity agreement, no matter who is their sponsor. It became known today that the president looks with disfavor on the proposed amendments of the Senators Root and Lodge, two of his personal friends and advisers. Mr. Taft believes the agreement should go through congress as it was introduced. He will make his fight along that line, no matter what republican leaders may do.

## Raided Gambling Dives.

NEW YORK, May 19.—Eleven men are under arrest today and a wagon load of card tables, dice boxes and other paraphernalia secured, the fruits of a series of raids on 100 gambling houses.

The raids were the first since Deputy Police Commissioner Daugherty assumed charge of the detective bureau 18 days ago. Arrests were made of the men under such warrants known as "John Doe," "John Dealer" and "John Proprietor."

## More Trouble For Lorimer.

SPRINGFIELD, May 18.—The senate adopted a resolution today asking the United States senate to re-open the Lorimer investigation. This action was taken, following the recommendation of the republican steering committee of the senate. Efforts to extend the life of the Helm committee to May 31 were defeated when the presiding officer ruled out of order the resolution calling for the extension.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—Senator La Follette today gave notice to the senate that on Monday he would call up his resolution providing for a special committee to investigate charges growing out of the election of Senator Lorimer of Illinois.

## Caught With Bribe Money.

OAKLAND, May 18.—Henry P. Dalton, county assessor of Alameda county, was arrested here late today as he was leaving a downtown restaurant where, it is declared, he had met a high official of the Spring Valley Water company. District Attorney Donohue, by whose orders the arrest was made, is authority for the

statement that \$5,000 in bills was taken from Dalton following his arrest.

Dalton had been county assessor for twelve years. The Spring Valley Water company is a giant corporation which supplies water to San Francisco, Oakland and other bay cities, and has large holdings in Alameda county.

## Proposed Cut in Wool Tariff.

WASHINGTON, May 20.—Democratic advocates of free raw wool had completely surrendered, it was declared, when the house ways and means committee today continued the work of revising the tariff on wool. Members of the committee who had been fighting Chairman Underwood and Speaker Clark to place raw wool on the free list were said to have agreed to the retention of a reduced duty. Though the exact rates to be assessed on raw wool and manufactured articles have not been disclosed, the tentative bill to be submitted to the democratic caucus probably would be a flat revenue measure, with wool cut about 50 per cent or more and the manufactured articles reduced from 50 to 60 per cent, dependent on the decision of the committee as to how low the figure can go without seriously impairing the revenues.

A lively discussion of the bill is expected in the democratic caucus.

## Bad Money For Alaska.

NEW YORK, May 18.—A clever plan to circulate counterfeit \$5 bills in Alaska is believed by secret service agents to have been frustrated by the arrest of four men and a woman in a raid on an alleged counterfeiters' den here.

Two front teeth of the woman prisoner were set with diamonds. It was through this woman "with the diamond teeth" the secret service men said the suspects were traced.

Several printing presses, lithographing inks and stones and many impressions of \$5 bills were seized. The government agents say the party had made plans to travel to Alaska and circulate the counterfeit bills there.

## Disastrous Stockyards Fire.

KANSAS CITY, May 18.—Fire broke out in the sheep pens at the Kansas City stock yards this afternoon. The flames, driven before a high wind, threatened a large section of the yards. The pens are at the south end of the yards and the wind was from the south.

The fire soon spread into the immense horse and mule barns between the sheep pens and livestock exchange building. The barns were thrown open and seven thousand mules stampeded through the streets.

One entire block of sheep pens and a barn of the Kansas City Stock Yards company were destroyed and more than one thousand sheep are believed to have perished.

## Big Dam Is Completed.

HELENA, May 17.—At noon today the six big gates of the Hauser lake dam across the Missouri river, 18 miles from Helena, were dropped from their cables, closing up the dam, thus marking the practical completion of the greatest engineering enterprise in Montana.

The dam has been constructed by the United Missouri River Power company at a cost of \$2,500,000 to replace the one washed out three years ago. It is over 600 feet in length, 120 feet in height, and at its base is 110 feet thick, all of solid concrete. The dam will generate 25,000 horsepower and its great storage capacity will operate to give the river a uniform flow practically throughout the year.

## Dairymen May Test Law.

GREAT FALLS, May 17.—The dairymen of this city are much worried over the presence here of state officers working under the directions of the state veterinarian department in testing cattle for tuberculosis. Already about 300 have been tested and 24 condemned, 9 of that number being killed. The dairy owners were planning to rise in arms against the condemnation of their stock and to bring about a better understanding of the law. Dr. M. E. Knowles and Dr. T. D. Tuttle came over from Helena today and tonight addressed the dairymen in the office of Mayor Speer.

There has been a feeling here that the state has no right to kill cattle without paying the owner something for the animal and a prominent dairyman said tonight that unless there was a letup in the campaign by the department the law would be tested by suit either in the form of an injunction to prevent the killing of condemned animals or for damages for those killed. There are one or two herds here of more than 100 animals.

## AFFECTS CATTLE PRICES.

Texas Stockmen Protest Against the Canadian Agreement.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—Controversy over the prices of Canadian cattle arose between members of the senate finance committee and a witness at today's hearing on the Canadian reciprocity bill.

E. C. Lasater, president of the Cattle Raisers association of Texas, asserted that the cattle raising industry would be destroyed because Canadian prices were lower. This, Senator Stone declared, was not the case. He quoted statistics which Mr. Lasater questioned. The secretary of agriculture and Professor Emery, of the tariff board, will be called to explain the figures and apparent contradictions.

Senator Stone announced today to the senate finance committee, at the hearing on the reciprocity and free list bills, that he would soon press for a vote on reciprocity. He said he did not propose to let the hearings drag along indefinitely. Senator Penrose, chairman of the committee, expressed the belief that the reciprocity bill hearing would end soon.

## Montana Sheepmen Protest.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—Senator Dixon today presented to the senate the resolution of the Mesgher County Woolgrowers association, protesting against any revision of the wool schedule of the Payne-Aldrich law at this special session of congress. The resolution was read to the senate and referred to the finance committee.

The Mesgher County Woolgrowers' association asks for an opportunity to present to the tariff commission facts relative to the cost of producing wool and mutton, and demands the retention of sufficient duty to cover the difference of cost of production here and in countries which import wool to the United States. They declare that if given an opportunity to present their side of this question, there not only will be no reduction in the duty on wool, but that the present rate will be increased. While the present duty on wool is supposed to afford western woolgrowers protection of 11 cents per pound in grease, they declare no such protection is realized. They urge that schedule K be remodeled so that they will realize this amount of protection.

## Trans-Continental Highways.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—A bill providing for two national automobile highways was introduced today by Representative Hobson. It authorizes the appointment of two committees, with members from various states, to work out two gigantic improvements, one a highway to extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast along the thirty-fifth parallel of north latitude, the other to extend from Canada to Mexico on a line near the twenty-third meridian west from Washington.

These highways, the bill provides, shall be known respectively as the national east-west automobile highway and the national north-south automobile highway.

## Prostrated By Heat.

CHICAGO, May 17.—One death and two prostrations from heat were reported yesterday. According to the weather bureau the day was the hottest May 16 in thirty years, the maximum temperature being 89 degrees. No relief from the heat is promised today and it is feared there will be further prostrations.

## Government Offers Bonds.

CHICAGO, May 17.—Seventy-seven mail bags filled with invitations to the public to bid for Uncle Sam's bonds left Washington today. Every one of the 23,000 national banks, state banks and trust companies of which the treasury has record will receive one of the official circulars and bidding slips. The man who wants to lend \$100, \$500, \$1,000 or more to the government at 3 per cent interest can learn all the particulars by dropping around to see his banker.

To make the new \$50,000,000 loan as promptly as possible the treasury will accept ordinary checks payable through clearing houses and postoffice orders in payment. The small bidders will receive first attention, which will make it possible for the individual bidder to deal directly with the government instead of with a bond dealer.

## Army Short of Equipment.

HOUSTON, Texas, May 16.—Commissary officers as well as line officers in Brigadier General Mills' command at Galveston are much exercised over what they declare a serious shortage of train wagons and mules in both

divisions of the army now in rendezvous in Texas on the Mexican border.

It is said the troops in Texas are short about 300 wagons, 1,200 mules and about 7,000 men to complete the organization of the first division. All the stations have been enlisting recruits and hurrying them to Texas, but there is no addition to the mule and wagon equipment.

## Favors Canadian Agreement.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—The address of Governor Osborne of Michigan favoring the passage of the Canadian reciprocity bill featured today's hearing before the senate finance committee on the reciprocity and free list bills. Governor Osborne expressed the opinion that Canada could not compete successfully with the United States in the growing of wheat or in any of the other ways which those opposed to the treaty fear.

He said, however, that he looked at the compact in a broader way than an economical and financial one, and that the great benefit this country would derive from the bill was a drawing together of the two nations for the better friendship which would ensue. If either side would benefit the United States would be the country.

## To Amend Anti-Trust Law.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—As indicating the possible effect on legislation of the supreme court's Standard Oil decision, three bills were introduced in the senate, one by Senator Jones, of Washington, republican, and the other two by Senator Culbertson, of Texas, and Reed, of Missouri.

All look to the amendment of the Sherman anti-trust law to include all combinations in restraint of trade, regardless of their reasonableness or unreasonableness.

## PEACE IN MEXICO.

Political Reforms Will Change Election Methods.

MEXICO CITY, May 18.—During the recent diplomatic exchanges between the government and the leaders of the revolution which resulted yesterday in the proffered resignations of President Diaz and Vice President Corral, agreement on Foreign Minister De La Barra as acting president and the arrangement of a general armistice as a basis of peace, the government drafted a new election law for submission to the chamber of deputies and under which election Diaz's successor will be held.

The measure, so far as is consistent, follows the French law under which the national executive is elected for seven years by a majority of votes by the senate and chamber united in an assembly. Heretofore the Mexican national government has conducted the elections through the local mayors, who presided at the pollings. The mayors passed on the eligibility of voters and counted the ballots. Their powers, linked with their obligations to the national administration caused the government to be accused of fraud.

Under the proposed law the mayors must keep their hands off. Candidates will conduct their own campaigns and their representatives will control the registration lists and count the ballots. The whole design of the bill is to place the franchise completely in the hands of the voters.

## Canadian Paper Costs Less.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—President Taft yesterday sent to the senate the tariff board's full report of its investigation of the pulp and newspaper paper industry of the United States and Canada.

Summarized briefly the report says a ton of newspaper is made in Canada for \$5.35 less than it is made in the United States.

Canadian cost is given at \$27.53 and the average cost in the United States at \$32.88. The duty under the present tariff is \$3.75. The document presents extensive tables, comparisons and other tabulations. It is said to be the most complete thing of the kind ever attempted. The entire force of the tariff board has been engaged upon it for months.

## Decision Favors Shipper.

WASHINGTON, May 19.—Holding that "in the absence of routing instructions, the shipper is entitled to have his shipment moved via the cheapest available route," the interstate commerce commission today granted reparation to Goodkind Bros. of Helena, Mont., against the Chicago, Indianapolis & Louisville railway and other carriers. The principle involved in the decision has been in dispute for years and now is determined by the commission.