



LAST EDITION WEATHER FOR SALT LAKE Fair. Silver, 55c per ounce. Copper, 15c per pound. Lead, in adv. \$2.50; New York, \$2.25.

THE RYAN CONTROVERSY

Railway Magnate Says He Is in Politics and Has Influence.

Odell, Governor Higgins and the Late Speaker Nixon Were All Used by Him to Watch Adverse Legislation in Albany.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Before the legislative insurance investigating committee another chapter was added today to the chronicles of what Thomas A. Ryan called "strange" interviews between himself and E. H. Harriman. Mr. Ryan gave his version of the conversations to the committee a few days ago when he said that Mr. Harriman, at the time of the acquisition of the James H. Hyde stock in the Equitable Life Assurance society, demanded an equal share and threatened to use his political influence against him if he did not surrender it. Today Mr. Harriman recited to the committee his version and added some interesting statements affecting his relations with former Governor B. B. Odell, Jr., chairman of the New York state Republican committee, and also as to a request to watch legislation affecting the Equitable society which he had made upon Governor Francis W. Higgins and the late S. Fred Nixon, speaker of the New York state assembly.

Harriman Not Satisfied. In substance Mr. Harriman testified today that when Mr. Ryan bought the Hyde stock carrying control of the Equitable society, Mr. Harriman agreed to cooperate with him in saving the property; that Mr. Harriman agreed to do it if satisfied that Mr. Ryan was acting from pure and unselfish motives; that Mr. Ryan did not satisfy him as to the purity of his motives, and that Mr. Harriman notified him that he would use his influence against him. The test which Mr. Harriman said he applied to determine Mr. Ryan's motives was an offer to take one-third of the Hyde stock and to name two trustees of the society. Mr. Ryan refused to agree to that. Mr. Harriman testified that Mr. Ryan should have assumed that he (Harriman) would use his political influence against him. He was not certain whether he said anything about legislative action as a warning to Mr. Ryan, but declared that he had nothing to do with starting the present insurance investigation.

As to Influence. Charles E. Hughes, counsel for the committee, informed Mr. Harriman that it has been charged that he got his political influence through his relation with former Governor B. B. Odell, Jr. Mr. Harriman said: "Well, I should think Mr. Odell had political influence because of his relation with the society. Mr. Harriman said in his remark. Later Mr. Harriman said to the Associated Press that the remark was meant in a jocular sense. "Mr. Harriman declared to the committee that he did not confer with Mr. Odell about the society, and that he had taken any action to thwart Mr. Ryan's plans.

Last spring, Mr. Harriman said, when the management of the Equitable Life Assurance society was divided into two factions, the one headed by President James W. Alexander and the other by James H. Hyde, an attempt was made by the Alexander faction to induce the legislature to nationalize the society. Mr. Harriman said he asked members of the legislature to watch out for any legislation favorable to the Alexander faction and to report to him if it appeared.

Averse to Giving Names. He was averse to disclosing the names of the men to whom he made this request and only consented to do so after repeated urging on the part of Senator William M. Armstrong, chairman of the committee, and by Mr. Hughes, and after he had been allowed to consult with his counsel. He then stated that it was Governor Higgins and Speaker Nixon whom he had asked to watch out for the Alexander legislation. He added that no such legislation was introduced and that he took no steps through Governor Higgins and Speaker Nixon to prevent it. The committee adjourned until Monday.

Senator Armstrong stated tonight that just before finishing the investigation, about Dec. 30, the committee may go to Albany to examine the state insurance department, holding sittings at the capital.

PURITY OF MOTIVES. Harriman Wanted to Be Satisfied Regarding Ryan. New York, Dec. 15.—E. H. Harriman was called to the bar by the insurance investigating committee opened here yesterday.

Relations With Odell. "It has been charged that through your relation with Mr. Odell you have political influence, what would you say to that?" "Well, I should think Mr. Odell had political influence because of his relation with the society," replied Mr. Harriman. "Not specially." "A few minutes later in his testimony, Mr. Harriman turned to the subject of former Governor Odell and political influence and said: "Odell and my having political influence because of my relations or affiliation with him. I would like to say that all last spring during the controversy, the Equitable controversy, between his inside factions, that Governor Odell was not here, nor was he communally with what it was."

Pointed Question Asked. "What kind of help?" asked Mr. Hughes counsel to the investigating committee. "To help him get his nominee elected chairman of the board," replied Mr. Harriman. "Asked upon what grounds he had been satisfied that Mr. Ryan was not a spy?" "Well, it was rather staggering to me that he should have control of the Equitable or should have control of it," he said. "I was satisfied that he was acting from a pure and unselfish motive. I did not tell him that I would help him. He told me his plan. I did not tell him that I would help him to get his nominee elected. Why did you say that?" "I was referring to the purity of his motives," asked Mr. Hughes. "Ryan was satisfied that with Mr. Odell in charge and if Mr. Ryan were



When the Coal Famine's On.

OREGON THIEVES GO INTO HIDING

Puter and McKinley Wanted by State and Federal Authorities.

SENTENCE WAS DEFERRED

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—The supreme court of the state today affirmed the verdict of the lower court which condemned Johann Hoch to death for the murder of his wife, Mrs. Marie Weicker-Hoch, and the date of his execution has been set for Feb. 23.

PRECIOUS PAIR LEFT NO TRACE BEHIND.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The department of justice and the state of Oregon are much concerned regarding the whereabouts of S. A. D. Puter and Horace G. McKinley, both of whom were convicted in Portland, Ore., in connection with the extensive land frauds in that state. In their case sentence was deferred on condition that they furnish the government with all the information possible concerning others involved in the alleged land swindling schemes. It also was agreed with them that if they withheld nothing the other cases against them would not be pressed.

Denied Making Threats.

"No, sir. A wrong interpretation has been made of what I said. I do not have a recollection of having said to Ryan that I did not intend to let any share in it. I cannot say positively that I did not say it. I would have your help if he gave you a share."

Other Charges Against Them.

Since their trial and conviction, however, they have been charged with implication in frauds in state school lands by which eastern bankers were swindled out of thousands of dollars, and that on this account their apprehension is likewise desired by the state authorities.

OREGON LAND FRAUDS.

Salem, Ore., Dec. 15.—R. H. Goddard, son of Hiram Goddard, banker and timberman of La Crosse, Wis., arrived here today from the east to make an investigation of numerous fraudulent certificates of sale while his father holds for Oregon school lands. Goddard brought with him certificates covering 7,000 acres of land, nearly all the paper being fraudulent. Goddard also has with him certificates covering 7,000 acres of land which S. A. D. Puter, now a fugitive from justice, sold to H. A. Salzer of La Crosse through a Chicago attorney for \$18,000. In a previous transaction with Salzer the swindlers obtained about \$12,000. Just how much of the fraudulent paper was purchased by Goddard and Salzer has not been ascertained, but it is thought that most of the paper now in Goddard's possession is forged. R. H. Goddard expressed great surprise when informed that Kay McKay, who was arrested in Seattle in connection with the land frauds, had been released on instructions from his father. Further developments are expected within a few days.

CREW RESCUED.

Bridgeport, Conn., Dec. 15.—The Bridgeport line steamer City of Laverne, from New York to this port, collided with and sank the three-masted schooner Basutoland, Captain Roper, bound from Chatham, N. B., to New York with a cargo of laths, tonight off South Norwalk. The steamer's boats saved the five men on the schooner.

GOSSIP ABOUT THE SMOOT CASE

Rumor That the Utah Senator May Demand a Vote. Expires of Cyanide Poisoning While at Work in His Laboratory.

BURROWS SAYS NOTHING ASSISTANCE IS TOO LATE

NO ACTION UNTIL AFTER THE HOLIDAYS. DECEDENT PROMINENT IN COUNTRY AND UNIVERSITY CLUBS.

(Special to The Herald.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Today's Washington Times prints a story on the Smoot case, in which it is stated: "Friends of Senator Burrows, chairman of the committee that has so long and successfully sat on the Smoot lid, say that the senator is getting ready to take up the case again sooner than the holiday recess and that he has great hopes of getting the Utah senator thrown out. So far as known Chairman Burrows is the only Republican on the committee who favors this course, but it is reported that Senator Dooliver is to become a member."

Nice Man, but Must Go. The Iowa man's attitude, according to reports, is that Senator Smoot is a mighty nice man and the victim of painful circumstances, but that the views of the great body of American workmanship must not be ignored, and that Smoot will have to go. Chairman Burrows believes that the new testimony he is going to have taken will greatly strengthen the case against Smoot. It is understood that this will result in a special conference of the Mormon church last summer when, according to reports, the dignitaries of the organization practically determined to stand pat on their objectionable doctrine, in defiance to the government and the prejudices of the people who dislike polygamy. It is true that Smoot did not attend the conference, but the opposition to him takes the view that he is nevertheless the political representative of this insurgent hierarchy and as such should be made an example of.

Smoot Wants Action. There is another story, full of more sensational possibilities, to the effect that Senator Smoot is confident that if a vote can be forced in the senate he will win, and is disposed to force the issue. He feels, it is said, as many other people do, that the senate committee is stretching out the investigation with a view to making any report on it till the end of his term. While this would leave him comfortable in his seat, it would leave him without the vindication he would like. Therefore, reports say, he may one of these days rise in his place and ask that the committee be required to make a report within some reasonable time. It would be a spectacular and, perhaps, from Smoot's point of view, a rather dangerous proceeding.

No Statement From Burrows. Careful questioning of Chairman Burrows fails to elicit any definite statement from him as to what his committee will do in the Smoot case beyond the fact that it will not be taken up until after the holidays. Mr. Burrows says that much additional testimony is available, but he will not say positively that the case will be reopened for the purpose of placing his testimony before the committee. Senator Smoot, in response to inquiries as to the status of his case, says he has not conversed with Chairman Burrows or other senators in reference to the Smoot case, but that he does not know what course of procedure will be followed by the committee in its further action upon it. He does not expect to resign or to call on the senate for a vote.

THE DEATH RECORD.

Judge John E. Ryland. Lexington, Ky., Dec. 15.—Judge John E. Ryland, of the city, original judge for eighteen years of this circuit, died here today. Rev. E. P. Ryland, pastor of the First Presbyterian church here, and sister, Col. and have been notified by wire of the death.

Wesley Jones.

New York, Dec. 15.—J. Wesley Jones, founder and head of the United States volunteer life saving corps, died at his home in Brooklyn, aged 81 years. Colonel Jones served throughout the Civil war of the time on the staff of General George B. McClellan.

HOLIDAY RECESS.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Chairman Payne of the ways and means committee today presented in the house a resolution providing for the holiday recess. It proposes adjournment of both houses from Dec. 21 to Jan. 4.

FOUR JURORS SELECTED.

Chicago, Dec. 15.—Four days' examination of venemans to fill a panel of twelve men to try the "beef trust" cases closed tonight, with only four men accepted by both sides. Judge Humphrey adjourned court until Monday.

PLATE GLASS IN DEMAND.

Pittsburg, Dec. 15.—Enormous demand for all sizes of plate glass from all parts of the country caused an advance of 10 per cent in the price today at a meeting here of representatives of all the independent plate glass companies in the United States.

OMNIBUS BUILDING BILL.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The house committee on public buildings and grounds today decided to press an omnibus building bill at the present session of congress.

NEW CASES OF FEVER.

Havana, Dec. 15.—Three new cases of yellow fever were reported today. There were one death from the disease and four cases were discharged as cured.

WILL TRY TO DEFEAT AN ADMINISTRATION BILL

(Special to The Herald.) Washington, Dec. 15.—A conference of twenty-five congressmen from Colorado, Michigan, Ohio, California and Nebraska was held in the room of Representative Mondell Monday. It is known that Senator Ankeny of Washington has been given the chairmanship of the committee on irrigation, for which there was a sharp contest. Fulton of Oregon will succeed Senator Warren as chairman of the claims committee; Hoyburn of Idaho will retain the manufacturers committee, and is given a place on the public buildings and grounds committee.

COMMISSIONER RICHARDS IS TRYING TO REFORM LAND LAWS

(Special to The Herald.) Washington, Dec. 15.—The secretary of the interior today transmitted to the senate the draft of a bill prepared by the commissioner of the general land office, prescribing as perjury false affidavits of homestead entrymen relative to the non-mineral character of lands on which they make filings. Under the present practice this affidavit is required by the regulations and not by statute, and it consequently in making a false affidavit cannot be adequately punished. Also the draft of a bill providing for the repeal of the act of June 30, 1903,