

# TELEGRAPH NEWS SUMMARY

CULLED FROM DISPATCHES OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

**A Review of Happenings in Both Eastern and Western Hemispheres During the Past Week—National, Historical, Political and Personal Events Tensely Told.**

A letter received by Victoria, B. C. seamen from Japan says the Japanese sailing schooner *Seikoku Maru* has been lost with all hands.

Colombian troops suffer some severe hardships on the Atrato river. Four thousand more warriors started out, then returned to Bogota.

Lord Amber died in the Laribois hospital at Paris recently from heart failure brought on by the shock of a fall from the stairs of a restaurant.

The state department has been informed that final steps have been taken for the formation of a permanent republican form of government in Panama.

Sunday, for the first time this winter, the transportation facilities on the Chicago railroad systems were more or less crippled by a heavy fall of snow.

Serious charges against Consul General Oliver J. Hughes at Coburg, Germany, have been brought to the attention of the state department at Washington.

President Roosevelt recently entertained at luncheon the officers of the National League of Republican clubs and prominent league workers from various parts of the country.

United States Minister Squiers, of Havana, sailed for New York, whence he will go immediately to Washington. It is said the Cuban government has granted all his requests.

A drowning accident occurred recently off Crawford bay, near Nelson, B. C., when J. Brown of Fernie lost his life. Deceased was employed as a deckhand on the steamer *Valhalla*.

Beginning with the new year the railroads of the west will adopt very stringent rules about issuing passes. It will be a pretty hard matter for people to get favors of that sort after January 1.

The last statement of the treasury balances in the general fund, exclusive of the \$150,000,000 gold reserve in the division of redemption, shows: Available cash balance \$220,559,591; gold, \$118,030,122.

Senator Hanna has decided to request the senate committee on military affairs to subpoena General Wood to answer some of the charges made against him by opponents of his confirmation as major general.

The president has sent the following nominations to the senate: Assistant treasurer, Thomas J. Adkins, of St. Louis, Mo. Envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Panama, William I. Buchanan of New York.

Norman Wolf, Jack McGovern, Jas. Burns and Jas. Smith were killed and several other men injured by a boiler explosion recently at Montgomery & Palmer's sawmill, 12 miles from Solona, Colo., at the head of Onion creek.

Ben C. Aylor, the Webb City, Mo., mineowner, who shot Gordon Allen, a wealthy Joplin man, two months ago, was acquitted by a jury in the circuit court. The jury was out only eight minutes. Aylor's plea was self defense.

Altoona, Pa.—Orders have been issued for the employes in the Pennsylvania shops to work 10 hours a day, with overtime when necessary, to get out the work. Between 1,000 and 3,000 additional men will be given employment.

According to computations made by State Insurance Commissioner Host, Wisconsin may recover from \$150,000 to \$200,000 in back taxes from 151 fire insurance companies operating at present and from forty that have operated here for 30 years.

It is reported that the Northern Securities company has disposed of \$35,000,000 of the total of \$98,000,000 of Great Northern preferred stock formerly held in its treasury in order to defeat the government suit in the United States supreme court.

The Westminster abbey authorities have declined to permit the ashes of Herbert Spencer to be sepulchered in the British *Valhalla*, according to a N. Y. World dispatch from London. They were informally approached, but expressed regret that it was impossible.

No change will be made in the name of the Protestant Episcopal church in the immediate future and the next triennial council of the church will take no action on the movement which has been on foot for a change of name of the church to the Catholic Church of America.

Word has been received from Lovelock, Nev., to the effect that P. H. Cook, traveling freight agent for the Union Pacific, while showing an automatic revolver to J. W. Walters, agent at Lovelock, accidentally discharged the weapon and killed Walters instantly. A coroner's jury has acquitted Cook of any blame.

Nat C. Goodwin, the comedian, has narrowly escaped death in an automobile accident on the Brooklyn bridge recently. He was thrown from the machine, struck against the iron railing and fell back into the roadway. An artery in his temple was severed, and only his presence of mind in throwing one arm out saved him from probable death in the East river. During a performance recently in San Francisco at a Chinese theater an unknown Chinese walked out from the side of the stage and drawing a revolver from his blouse began shooting at one of the musicians. He fired four times and, though there were several hundred in the theater, made his escape. The wounded musician died.

## IDAHO SQUIBS.

A \$1,000,000 gas plant will be in operation at Boise, within 90 days, according to Charles Theis, of Spokane. A trapper from Pot Mountains says that on his way out he passed the dead body of a man near an old campfire on the trail.

It is reported that the strike in the logging camps of the Potlatch Lumber company, on the Palouse river at Princeton, has been declared off.

Governor Morrison has appointed W. C. Howie of Mountain Home a member of the state pure food commission to fill the vacancy caused by the death of T. P. Maryatt.

Ole Brosall, one of Toohy's men, was killed recently by some frozen dirt falling on him, breaking his neck. He was about 45 years of age. He was working at Murphy's camp near Hope.

James Quarles, the colored man who shot and badly wounded Policeman Grogan during a disturbance at a baseball game last May, was found guilty at Caldwell of assault with a deadly weapon. The jury was out 24 hours. Quarles narrowly escaped being lynched at the time of the shooting.

"The Indian department is committing a grave error in treating the Indians on the Nez Perce and other reservations, where the lands have been allotted in severalty, as children," says James Stuart, a full blooded Nez Perce Indian of Kooskia, and the most influential member of his tribe.

It is learned on good authority that the management of the Farmers' Grain company, limited, of Nez Perce, will be changed some time during the week. Charles Hutchins will succeed James Boyd as president, with P. W. Mitchell as successor to William Baird as secretary. It is understood the entire force of employes will be changed with the exception of one or two.

A decision has been rendered by the supreme court wherein the judgment of the district court of Latah county is affirmed in the case of Hattie Carson against the city of Genesee, in which the plaintiff recovered damages from the corporation for injuries received while traveling over a defective sidewalk. The city appealed from the decision of the district court.

A serious stabbing affray occurred at the Aspendale schoolhouse, about eight miles southeast of Moscow recently. Wade Hendrick, an 18 year old lad, probably fatally cut Claude Reeder, another lad about the same age, while they were attending the literary society at the schoolhouse. The trouble is supposed to have arisen over young Headrick imposing upon Reeder's younger brother.

## Ballington Booth Hurt.

Waterbury, Conn., Dec. 14.—As the result of a fall, General Ballington Booth of the Volunteers of America may be forced to abandon his plans for the present and remain at home during the holidays. General Booth, after an address, left the stage of the opera house to meet the audience, and in stepping back to the platform slipped and fell, injuring the same knee that he hurt last week.

## Marcus Daly's Estate.

New York, Dec. 15.—William C. Wilson, state transfer tax appraiser, has filed a supplemental report as to the value of the estate left by Marcus Daly, who died in this city on November 11, 1900. The appraiser's original estimate of the gross personal estate, wherever situated, was \$9,630,939. It is unchanged in the report filed today.

## Wheat Hauls Cheapened.

Effective December 1, the Northern Pacific announces a special tariff on carload lots of wheat for varied distances between points on its line in Washington, which range from 3 cents per hundred pounds for 10 miles or less, down to 15 1-2 cents per cwt. for a distance ranging between 350 and 375 miles.

## "Paradise Lost" Manuscript.

London, Dec. 15.—John C. Collins and a number of authors and literary men are urging the government to secure the manuscript of Milton's "Paradise Lost" for the nation, and to keep it from going to the United States.

With 335 pounds of smokeless powder, the new 40 caliber, 12 inch gun will send an 850 pound armor piercing shell through 19 5-10 inches of Harveyized nickel steel armor at a distance of a mile and a half.

# SEC'Y ROOT FOR GEN. WOOD

SAYS REPORTS SENT OUT BY NEWSPAPERS ARE UNTRUE.

Has Addressed a Letter to Senator Proctor of the Committee on Military Affairs—Refuses to Bring Gen. Wood Back from Manila to Testify Before Committee.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Secretary Root has addressed the following letter to Senator Proctor, acting chairman of the committee on military affairs:

"Sir: I enclose a letter from Brigadier General Tasker H. Bliss, asking attention to the report of his recent testimony before your committee as a witness regarding certain objections to the confirmation of General Wood. It appears that the press reports of the precise contrary of what he in fact testified. He wishes this set right for his own reputation and I shall take liberty of doing so as far as practicable by giving his letter to the press.

"At the same time I wish to call the attention of the committee to the fact that some persons seem to be persistently furnishing to the press false statements of the testimony taken by you, the perversion of the evidence being in every case to the prejudice of General Wood. It can not be doubted that the newspapers publishing these reports believe them to be true and that the reports are sent to them by the representatives of the press in good faith under the same belief. It is evident that some person is undertaking to convey to the press representative information of what goes on in the committee and is taking advantage of the fact that the evidence is not published to state it falsely for the purpose of injuring General Wood in the public mind; so that while your committee will act upon the evidence actually before it, the public judgment as to how you ought to act will be based upon an entirely different and erroneous idea of what the evidence is.

"If the evidence actually given called for General Wood's presence I should, of course, bring him back from the Philippines, but I do not feel justified in withdrawing him from the important duties which he is performing on account of false reports of evidence which has never in fact been given. It hardly seems fair that an officer who is not here to protect himself, but is serving his country faithfully under orders on the other side of the world, should have his reputation stabbed in this way. I earnestly request your committee's attention to this subject. Very respectfully,

"ELIHU ROOT,

"Secretary of War."

## Bliss' Letter.

General Bliss, in his letter, contradicts the report that he strongly opposed the admission without payment of duty of the silver service purchased in New York by the *Jai Alai* and that he received mandatory instructions from General Wood to admit said silver service free of duty. He says he testified most positively under oath "that neither directly nor indirectly, verbally or in writing, personally from him or through any subordinate, nor from any person whatsoever had he received even an intimation as to the remission of duties upon these articles; that I ordered the remission of duties because I believed then and do so now that it was in accordance with the law; that if any mistake was made I was solely responsible for it. I further testified that during the two and a half years that I served directly under the orders of General Wood as military governor of Cuba I know of no action of his that was not consistent with the character of an honorable officer and a man of integrity."

## Another National Park.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 17.—Another national park is proposed for Washington, and Mr. Cushman is now at work on a bill which he expects to have ready to introduce in a few days. The bill proposes to create a national elk park in the heart of the Olympic mountains similar to the Yellowstone and Mount Rainier parks, and also for the protection of a herd of 600 or more elk now ranging wild within the forest confines. Mr. Cushman is receiving hearty cooperation and support in the matter from the order of Elks in his state.

## Landing Marines.

Colon, Dec. 15.—A company of marines from the cruiser *Prairie* was landed here today under the command of Captain Smedley D. Butler and immediately started by train for Panama. The destination of the marines is said to be Yaviza, up the San Miguel gulf and Tucari river.

## Mills Closed.

Joliet, Ill., Dec. 16.—Three rod mills at the Joliet plant of the Illinois Steel company have closed for an indefinite period, throwing 500 men out of employment.

## WASHINGTON ITEMS.

A Masonic lodge has been started to work at Deer Park.

The rumor that a third bank is to be established at Rendon is becoming stronger.

Palouse will be represented at the St. Louis exposition with a display of its products.

It is now definitely settled that Tacoma is to be in the Pacific Coast Baseball league.

Washington Agricultural college won the annual intercollegiate debate with the University of Idaho.

The Salvation Army of Spokane is planning to feed about 300 men in the barracks at a Christmas dinner this year.

Horse Heaven and Rattlesnake ranchers report that the late snow filled the ground to a depth of 19 inches with moisture.

William Nevins of Van Horn, Blaine county, was drowned by the capsizing of his boat in the upper Sank river while hunting recently.

The store of Nelson Murray at Roy, was entered recently by a burglar who carried away jewelry, cigars, revolvers and cutlery worth \$250.

Sam Eder was denied a new trial by Judge Richardson and sentenced to 10 years in the penitentiary for burglary.

The suit instituted against the estate of Joseph Stubblefield, the wealthy farmer of Walla Walla, who died a year ago, has been dismissed, an amicable settlement having been reached.

A series of farmers' institutes is being arranged for the latter part of this month in the center of the state, under the auspices of the Washington Agricultural college.

It is understood that the La Grande Sugar company has a new proposition to make to the people of Prosser with reference to the establishment of a sugar beet factory at that place.

Dr. W. H. McLeish, assistant superintendent of the Western Washington Hospital for the Insane at Stellacoom, has been appointed acting superintendent to succeed C. M. Parks, who resigned.

Antonio Del vecchio, an Italian saloonkeeper at Spokane, was shot and killed by his partner, G. J. Dillo, Saturday night. To all appearances Dillo killed his partner in self defense; but immediately after the killing and before the police could arrive, he took to his heels.

L. K. Cogswell of Chehalis and H. G. Stimmel of Spokane have been appointed by Governor McBride as two of the state of Washington's three delegates to the National Live Stock association, which convenes at Portland January 12.

The unfortunate inmates of the eastern Washington insane asylum at Medical Lake are looking forward eagerly for the annual Christmas tree at that institution. It is up to the generous people of eastern Washington to help make that event a success.

The findings of the lower court in the noted case of H. St. John Dix, convicted of the embezzlement of the funds of the Scandinavian American bank of Whatcom and sentenced to 10 years in the penitentiary, has been affirmed by the supreme court.

Fred C. Swan, a naval apprentice at the Bremerton navy yard, who deserted four months ago, committed suicide recently by taking carbolic acid. He was married at 1 o'clock in the morning a few weeks ago to Mrs. Laura Goodman, who left him and returned to her parents last week.

The Hazelwood company of Spokane won the sweepstakes prize for the best ten birds of any breed exhibited in the recent poultry show at the International Live Stock exhibit in Chicago. There were 1,470 head of poultry on exhibition. The chief prizes were won in the White Plymouth Rock section.

Senator Foster has had the matter of a branch national soldiers' home at Fort Sherman, Idaho, again brought to his attention by R. B. Scott of Spokane and other Grand Army men, who have urged him to bring the matter before congress in the shape of a bill. If necessary, Senator Foster will do this, but courtesy leads him to turn the case over to Senator Heyburn, if agreeable to the Idaho senator.

Application has been made to Whitman county commissioners for a franchise for an electric railroad from Rosalia to Penewa, via Thornton and Colfax, with branches to St. John and Oakesdale. The application was presented by D. F. Anderson, of Rosalia; and Wilbur S. Yearsley, of Colfax. The board filed the application, which will be advertised in due form and final action taken on it at the February meeting.

Last season a new disc plow was introduced in Walla Walla county. The plow had done satisfactory work in other parts of the state. However, it has demonstrated that the disc arrangement is not suited for the hill lands of that section, and the old flat bottom moldboard plows will be used as in the past. The new plow would not hold its place in the soil on steep hillsides, "swamping" easily and refusing to turn the soil when made to face the hill. It is said that in Douglas county the new implement has made a splendid record of success.

# SEC'Y HITCHCOCK'S REPORT

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT SHOWS PECULIAR STATE OF AFFAIRS.

Northwest States Occupy a Prominent Part of Report—Alleged Frauds Under Public Land Laws Being Investigated—Over a Million Acres of Timber Land Taken Up.

Washington, D. C.—The annual report of the secretary of the interior, a volume of 287 pages, is ready for submission. Of alleged frauds and irregularities under the public land laws, Mr. Hitchcock says:

"During the past year there have been indicted and arrested in the state of Oregon, charged with forgery and conspiracy to defraud the government, a United States commissioner and three others, the first being a woman. The United States commissioner has been removed from her office, and all are awaiting trial by the court.

"It is alleged that several hundred entries and final proofs were made before this commissioner under the act of March 11, 1902, all of which have been or are being examined by officers of this department.

## Forest Reserve Frauds.

"Nearly a year ago information reached the department which strongly indicated that frauds of a serious nature had been and were being perpetrated against the government under what is known as the forest reserve lie land act of June 4, 1897, by a combination of land speculators on the Pacific coast. The information and indicated frauds were of so grave a character that I at once directed a thorough investigation to be made.

"It is the confident belief of those in charge of the inquiry that the guilty parties will be apprehended and speedily brought to justice.

## Timber and Stone Act.

"During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1902, there were 4,022 entries under the timber and stone act, embracing 545,253.98 acres, while during the last fiscal year there were 12,249 such entries, embracing 1,765,222.43 acres, an increase over the previous year of 8,227 entries and 1,219,968.45 acres. The increase in the activity of this class of entries affords food for serious reflection.

"In the fall of 1902 reports of irregularities in the making of entries under this act, on the Pacific coast, were so numerous and persistent, that on November 18 of that year I directed the commissioner of the general land office to suspend action on all entries made under said act in the La Grande, Lake View, Oregon City, and The Dalles land offices in Oregon, the Eureka, Redding, and Sacramento offices in California, and Seattle and Vancouver offices in Washington, until proper investigation thereof could be made and their bona fides determined.

## Irrigation Enterprises.

"In Washington the great body of irrigable land is in the central part of the state, within what is known as the "Great Bend" of the Columbia. This land is below the level of the Spokane river, at the foot of Spokane Falls, and may be reached by water from this or other sources, if the cost is not prohibitory. The scheme is one of gigantic proportions, and its feasibility can not be definitely determined without careful surveys. Similar bodies of land north of the Columbia, and near the Okanogan river, can be reclaimed probably at less cost.

"In Idaho, there are found to be several opportunities for reclaiming arid land with the waters of the Snake river and its tributaries, especially by utilizing as reservoirs the lakes at the headwaters of the Snake. A large tract of land has been reserved on the Snake river desert in the vicinity of the town of Dubois, and another below American Falls near Minidoka; a third project is that for irrigating lands lying between the Boise and Payette rivers west of the city of Boise.

"During the year a very important system of irrigation, conservatively estimated to cover about 20,000 acres of land on the Yakima reservation, in Washington, was authorized by the department, and the same is now being constructed under the personal supervision of the irrigation inspector.

"Recently a decision was rendered by the United States circuit court for the district of Washington, southern division, dismissing the bill filed July 11, 1895, to enjoin Winans Brothers from interfering with the fishery and other rights claimed by the Yakima Indians under their treaty. The case has been appealed to a higher court for final decree which will govern the department and the Indian bureau, not only in this case hereafter, but in other cases of a similar nature that have already arisen or that may rise in the future."

The importation of champagne into the United States from January 1 to May, 1903, was 137,742 cases, against 112,961 for the same period of 1902.