

**Leavenworth Echo**

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**Special Notice**—Hereafter all resolutions of condolence, cards of thanks, notices of entertainments where an admission fee is charged, and all notices of any kind intended to promote somebody's business must be paid for at regular advertising rates when printed in the Echo. If you expect this paper to help push something to make money you can afford to contribute to its support. All free entertainments of whatever kind, or movements to promote the welfare and prosperity of the community as a whole will be given the free use of its columns. No deviation will be made from this rule.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1907.

**A SENSATIONAL REPORT**

The report of the Interstate Commerce Commission on the business methods of the Standard Oil Co., which was filed with congress on Monday of this week will undoubtedly remove any doubt that may have existed as to the perfect propriety of President Roosevelt taking a personal and official interest in the Standard Oil investigation.

It is because he had the incorruptibility and the nerve to attack this aggregation of outlaws that the plain people admire him.

That for more than twenty years the Standard Oil company has been guilty of the crimes against society and against free government, which are charged in the report, was known to the president and every public prosecutor in the land, and yet, until Mr. Roosevelt became president, nothing was ever done to check the evil. The presidents and prosecutors who have gone before have either lacked honesty or nerve.

In destroying respect for the government the evil influence exerted by this arch enemy of free institutions was a thousand times greater than that of Herr Most, or any, or all, the anarchists who ever howled themselves hoarse talking against government.

The government destroying, soul destroying influence of the Standard Oil company has done more to lower respect for judge, jury, press and pulpit than all other evil agencies put together. So well was this known that self respecting ministers and college presidents refused to accept gifts of Standard Oil money, knowing that it would discredit the institution.

Some people may have forgotten the Bemis incident, and how President Harper of the Chicago, otherwise known as the Standard Oil University, remonstrated with Professor Bemis for lecturing his classes on the evil influences of great corporations. Professor Harper said they could not afford to teach such a doctrine when it was from that source that they received their salaries.

Chancellor Day, of the Syracuse, New York, University, has brought discredit on his school by becoming an apologist for all corporations, and especially the Standard Oil company by preaching the sacredness and inviolability of wealth. Nineteen out of every twenty men in the country firmly believe that Mr. Day is either paid for his slobbering laudations of the over rich or expects a fat donation for his college.

All corporations are not so bad as the Standard Oil, but in most instances it is because they are not so large. The tendency of great corporations is to assume powers and privileges that properly belong to the government only. Great corporations have inherent privileges. From these, with selfishness as the motive, it is an easy step to asserting legal privileges—why should a great corporation, composed of the best in the land, be bound by the same law that governs the conduct of the humble individual, even if they have to buy judge, jury, press and pulpit.

A movement which has its head in Spokane is on foot to create a new state out of eastern Washington, with a slice off Idaho and Oregon. The name to be given the new state is Lincoln. While it might be an appropriate tribute to the memory of the martyr president it is not likely that congress will take a favorable view of the proposition.

Congressman Jones wired the people of Wenatchee last week that he had secured an appropriation of \$42,000 in the rivers and harbors bill for the improvement of the Columbia river between Wenatchee and Bridgeport. The provisions of the bill make the sum immediately available.

**INCREASING SALARIES**

The proposition to increase the pay of senators and congressmen from \$5000 to \$7500 per year has not aroused the opposition that it was supposed it would if we take the press opinion as a true expression. Some newspapers justify the raise on the ground that it puts senators and congressmen above temptation, which means that those who have found \$5000 a year insufficient are tempted to take money that they have no right to take—in plain English, steal.

There are some two hundred senators and congressmen in Washington who keep establishments and entertain on a more or less lavish scale who will find \$7500, or even twice or three times that amount, insufficient for their needs. If the object is to put our lawmakers above temptation to make them honest, why not in lieu of a salary build for each a house and furnish it, allow each one to give say two entertainments during a session, all at the expense of the government. Thus they would be in the swim of Washington society swelled and yet never be tempted to do wrong.

We once knew an enthusiastic crusader against horse stealing to advocate the plan of killing all horses to put a stop to horse stealing.

We modestly assert that if it requires an increase of salary to keep our senators and representatives in the straight and narrow path, \$7500 will not do the business. Anything short of the earth, and the fullness thereof, would not remove temptation out of the reach of some of them.

At present the judicial district over which Judge Steiner presides is composed of Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan and Ferry counties. The district is too large and various schemes have already been advanced in the legislature to change the district. Last week the Bar Association of Wenatchee decided to ask that Chelan county be placed in a district by itself, and Mr. Frank Reeves went to Olympia to urge the passage of such a bill.

On January 1st a ruling of the Interstate Commerce Commission went into effect forbidding railroad companies from dealing in coal. Under the ruling railroad companies may only mine coal for their own use. Heretofore a number of railroads, notably the Northern Pacific, have engaged extensively in the business of selling coal to the public. Probably this, to a large extent, accounts for the coal shortage.

Ex-Railroad Commissioner McMillin, does not appear to show up well under investigation. His offer to return the salary he has drawn from the state since the first of last July has been accepted. The appointment of Mr. McMillin created unfavorable comment at the time Governor Meade made it.

**Wenatchee-Oroville Branch**

That the Wenatchee-Oroville branch of the Great Northern railroad is to be built in the early spring seems now to be an assured fact. There have been persistent rumors that construction work would start in a few weeks, but the first actual move in that direction was made last week when the company's right-of-way men appeared on the ground and began work.

They are at work down the east side of the Okanogan river and are serving the necessary notices on the Indians who have allotments on what was formerly the north half of the Colville Indian reservation.

It is officially reported that work will begin at both ends of the line as soon as men and teams can be secured and transported to the scene of work. This means that actual construction will begin about the first of March, and should be finished in the early fall. There is not a great deal of heavy work on the north end of the line except at the McLaughlin canyon, about twenty-five miles south of Oroville. The work on the lower end of the road, however, will be very heavy for the most part.

The Columbia river was frozen over below Wenatchee during the cold weather of the past month so that it would bear up wagons. An ice jam below stopped the current else the river would probably not have frozen.

During the last week of January the Dakotas had the severest blizzard and the coldest weather of the winter.

**ASK FOR A RECEIVER**

**Minority Stockholders of Wenatchee Planting Mills Co. ask for Receiver, Alleging Mismanagement**

The Wenatchee World of Tuesday contains the following:

"The minority stockholders of the Wenatchee Planting Mills Co., of Wenatchee, filed complaints in the Superior court Monday morning of mismanagement on the part of the present manager, Judson H. Cornish, and asked for the appointment of a temporary receiver to take charge of the business pending the litigation necessary prior to the appointment of a permanent receiver to close up the affairs of the business. The plaintiffs are S. R. Holcomb, F. M. Lapp, of Leavenworth, and B. E. Card, and are represented by Attorneys Henry Crass and Ira Thomas. The defendants, the Wenatchee Planting Mills Co. and Judson H. Cornish, are represented by W. O. Parr.

"The plaintiffs allege mismanagement of the business by Mr. Cornish since he took charge of the business last September after acquiring a majority of the stock. The Wenatchee Planting Mills Co. is incorporated for \$20,000, of which Judson H. Cornish owns \$10,500, his wife, Cora B. Cornish, \$1,000, S. R. Holcomb, \$1,500, B. E. Card, \$1,000, F. M. Lapp, \$3,000, J. B. Kelly, \$3,000. The company owns property as follows: Planting mill at Wenatchee, \$17,000, saw mill at Leavenworth, \$3,000, lumber and finished products, \$7,250, and a dock at Leavenworth valued at \$350.

Plaintiffs allege that on September 1, 1906, the company was in debt the sum of \$13,000; January 1, 1907, the debt had increased to \$22,000, and plaintiffs allege the assets of the company were the same at both times. In substantiation of their claim of mismanagement by Mr. Cornish they further allege that Mr. Cornish is president of the Farmers and Merchants Lumber company located at Irby, Washington, and also the president of the Irby Mercantile Co., and that since assuming charge of the Wenatchee Planting Mills Co., he has sold these two companies at Irby, of which he is himself the head, \$2500 of lumber of the Wenatchee Planting Co. at prices far below that paid by other customers of the company, and that to their knowledge the Wenatchee Planting Mills Co., has never received one cent for such lumber sold.

Mr. Cornish's affidavits deny the statement of the plaintiffs and would tend to prove that the company is better situated financially than ever before. Mr. Cornish further denies any connection with the Farmers & Merchants Lumber Co. of Irby, or with the Irby Mercantile Co., of both of which the plaintiffs allege he is the president.

Upon a hearing by the court the application for a receivership was denied, pending the litigation to follow. The court further required an amendment to the complaint and the whole matter will remain at a standstill until the filing of the amended complaint.

**Special Meeting of the Council**

A special meeting of the town council was held Monday night for the purpose of considering the purchase of additional hose and other fire fighting apparatus.

Quite a large number of citizens attended the meeting and urged the council to provide better fire protection. The purchase of what is known as a chemical engine was advocated and the council took a favorable view of the proposition, as something of this kind is all that would offer any protection to the more remote parts of the town. Mr. Barnes, of the Washington Rubber Co., was present and gave the council figures on hose and chemical engines. Definite action was not taken for the reason that the town has no place provided to store either hose or engine.

Another meeting of the council will be held tomorrow night for the purpose of deciding on the purchase of a lot that would be suitable and convenient for a town hall to be built some time in the future, but that would also answer to put a temporary building on to store hose and such other apparatus as the town may purchase. A number of locations are under consideration.

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**Attention**

Everybody interested in seeing a band organized in Leavenworth should attend the meeting Wednesday night at 8 o'clock in Library Hall. Come out everybody and let's get our town into line with a band of our own.

J. E. Barnes, of Seattle, will be in Leavenworth tomorrow morning and will give a practical demonstration on Front street of the efficiency of the Underwriter's Chemical Fire Extinguishers. They will also demonstrate the use of their hand fire extinguishers which are a necessity in every home and business house. Come out and be convinced that you need one for your home protection.

H. C. Peters, who built the Icicle river irrigation ditch that supplies the Cascade Orchards, is now engaged in an extensive irrigation scheme near Palouse, Wash.

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