

# The Caldwell Watchman.

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## ALASKAN RAILWAY BILL IS PASSED

SENATE APPROVES MEASURE PROVIDING FOR FIRST GOVERNMENT-OWNED ROAD.

### PRESIDENT TO BUILD LINE

Appropriation of \$40,000,000 Is Made for Work—Fifteen Republicans Vote With Democrats.

Washington.—By a vote of 46 to 16, the Senate passed the Alaska railway bill directing the president to purchase or construct 1,000 miles of railroad in Alaska at a cost not to exceed \$40,000,000.

Fifteen Republicans and Senators Poindexter, Progressive, voted for the bill. Senators Bacon, Hoke Smith and Williams, Democrats, voted against it.

The bill places on the president the responsibility for the selection of the route from tidewater to the interior of Alaska, and the construction, equipment and operation or leasing of such lines as he may construct or buy.

The bill provides for a redemption fund into which shall be paid 75 per cent of all moneys derived from the sale of public lands in Alaska or of the coal or mineral contents. Machinery used in the construction of the Panama canal is made available.

Unavailing efforts to reduce the \$40,000,000 appropriation authorized for the work were made. Other amendments defeated were those for government steamship lines to Alaska; for the sale of Alaska coal at cost to Pacific points and for limiting the construction to one main line.

The bill was amended to require the Senate's approval of the appointment of civil engineers receiving more than \$3,000 a year; to forbid any payment for the good-will of existing railroads; giving insured employees the right to sue the government and limiting the government's defense to those provided for in the federal employer's liability law of 1908.

A similar bill is pending in the house.

## STATE OFFICERS UNDER FIRE

New York Prosecutor Will Seek to Indict Them on Graft Charge.

New York.—The immediate indictment of two present and two former state officials on charges of malfeasance in office will be sought in Albany county, it was announced here by James W. Osborne, appointed by Governor Glynn to investigate alleged highway and barge canal graft. He will seek indictments against John Benzel, state engineer; Duncan W. Peck, superintendent of public works; C. Gordon Reed, former deputy highway commissioner.

It was learned that besides the accounts of Charles F. Murphy and James E. Gaffney, the district attorney has under examination those of Benzel, Peck, Reed and Foley; Phillip F. Donahue, treasurer of Tammany hall; Arthur A. McLean, treasurer of the Democratic State Committee, who recently pleaded guilty to a charge of accepting a campaign contribution from a corporation; Everett P. Fowler of Kingston, former member of the committee, who is awaiting trial on a charge of extortion.

## MOYER WILL STAND TRIAL

Union Leader Will Return to Michigan to Face Accusers.

Houghton, Mich.—Charles H. Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, and the six other union labor leaders under indictment here for conspiracy, will return voluntarily to stand trial with the 31 strikers indicted with them. A telegram to this effect was received by George E. Nichols, special prosecutor from O. N. Hilton of Denver, general counsel for the federation.

## Killed Insane Patient, Is Charged.

Woodward, Okla.—C. O. Pollard, former attendant at the state insane asylum at Supply, Okla., is under arrest and warrants have been issued for the arrest of two other former attendants, charging them with murdering Frank S. Pomeroy, an inmate. It is alleged that the three attendants, becoming enraged at Pomeroy, sent for another inmate of extraordinary physique, who struck Pomeroy a blow which knocked him to the floor. Then, it is alleged, the attendants jumped on him with their feet and beat him. He died soon after.

## CATO SELLS



Cato Selles, the commissioner of Indian affairs at Washington, has just outlined his program for bettering the conditions of the Indians and recovering the millions of dollars the red men have lost to the land sharks. He plans criminal prosecution of those who have robbed the red man and will compile facts for presentation to congress leading to drastic legislation to safeguard the health and wealth of the Indians. This picture shows Mr. Selles at his desk in Washington.

## CONGRESS ACTS ON WILSON'S PROGRAM

PLANS IMMEDIATE PREPARATION OF MEASURES RECOMMENDED BY PRESIDENT.

Washington.—President Wilson's suggestion to Congress in his trust address that the government and business men are ready to meet each other half way "in common effort to square business methods with both public opinion and the law," fell on attentive ears and struck a responsive chord in representatives of all political parties. The atmosphere of co-operation and "accommodation" in the message; the reforms proposed, expressed in terms of conservation and the spirit of friendliness to supersede antagonism in dealing with big business which dominated the president's thoughts, aroused expression of approval from all sides. Throughout the delivery of the address the assembled senators and representatives listened intently, applauding frequently.

Certain parts of the address were referred to committees and it was announced that work would begin at once on the preparation of the proposed measures.

## SUE DIRECTORS OF FRISCO

Receivers Seek to Recover \$14,000,000 Paid For Brownsville Road.

St. Louis.—Suit to recover more than \$14,000,000 was filed in the United States District Court here against 10 men who were directors of the St. Louis and San Francisco railroad in 1910. The suit was filed by attorneys representing the receivers.

The 10 men in the suit are: B. F. Yoakum, chairman of the Frisco directorate at the time of the receivership; James Campbell, president of the North American Company, which brought the receivership suit; William K. Bixby, now a receiver of the Wash; C. W. Hilliard, former vice president of the Frisco; B. L. Winchel, former president of the Frisco; E. V. R. Thayer, A. S. Grig, Frank Trumbull, Thomas H. West, chairman of the Board of Directors of the St. Louis Union Trust Company, and Hans Winterfelt.

The petition charges that the defendants unlawfully, carelessly and negligently caused the Frisco to pay out \$14,000,000 without receiving anything of value in exchange in the purchase of the St. Louis, Brownsville & Mexico Railroad.

## Whiskey and Tobacco Consumed.

Washington.—The American people drank 70,000,000 gallons of whiskey, smoked 4,000,000,000 cigars and 8,711,000,000 cigarettes during the six months ending December 31, according to Commissioner Osborne of the Internal Revenue Bureau.

## PLAN TO FORTIFY HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

ARMY AUTHORITIES WOULD PROVIDE PROTECTION FOR PACIFIC COAST.

### CONGRESS TO GIVE MONEY

War Department Proposes to Establish Strong Military Post Supplemental to Naval Base.

Washington.—The annual fortifications bills recommended to the house by Representative Eberly of Kentucky would provide \$457,000 to build fortifications as a part of the War Department's plan to establish a strong military post supplemental to the Hawaiian naval base.

The measure would give congressional approval of the transfer of 45 field artillery pieces to the islands. The bill would appropriate \$5,175,000 in all. This is a decrease of about \$420,000 from last year.

The Hawaiian Island project was included at the request of Secretary Garrison.

Major General Wood told the committee that fortification of the island is an urgent necessity, that the naval base might be maintained as a protection to the Pacific coast and the Panama canal.

"The Hawaiian Islands," said General Wood, "really are in the center of all the Pacific trade routes, and whoever holds them will exercise great influence, if not control, in time of war on the Pacific trade."

"The Panama canal has been a strong additional reason for doing this, but the defense of the Pacific coast also is, I think, the fundamental reason," said General Wood. "If these islands should fall into the hands of a strong naval power this power would be so near as to greatly jeopardize our trade and virtually would be in a position to maintain a force and hold a splendid harbor as a place for supply and refuge for a fleet."

## CROP NEARLY BREAKS RECORD

Latest Ginning Report Shows It is the Second Largest Ever Grown.

Washington.—Announcement by the Census Bureau that 13,589,171 bales of cotton, exclusive of linters, had been ginned prior to January 16, officially established that the 1913-14 cotton crop is the second in size the country has grown.

The ninth cotton ginning report of the Census Bureau for the season announced that 13,544,111 bales of cotton, counting round as half bales, of the growth of the 1913 crop had been ginned prior to January 16, to which date during the past seven years the ginning averaged 95.5 per cent of the entire crop. Last year to January 16 there had been ginned 13,088,930 bales.

Ginnings prior to January in Arkansas and Louisiana with comparisons for last year and other big crop years, and the percentage of the entire crop ginned prior to that date in those years, follows:

Arkansas.	Ginnings, Per Cent.
1913	976,729 96.2
1912	741,282 96.2
1911	797,597 87.8
1907	931,133 93.5

  

Louisiana—	Ginnings, Per Cent.
1913	420,094 98.5
1912	369,076 98.5
1911	357,758 93.9
1908	458,762 98.3

## METHODISTS TO COOPERATE

Agreement Reached Between Northern and Southern Churches.

Nashville, Tenn.—A conference commission consisting of three members will be established in every city where the Northern and Southern branches of the Methodist Church are operating as a result of a resolution adopted at the session of the Federal council of the two branches of the church which met here.

The commission shall be appointed by the regular conferences and have power to adjust and settle any friction and dispute that may arise between the two bodies. In case the decree of the commission is not satisfactory to both churches, appeal to the federal council may be taken.

It was provided that where either branch of the church is doing the work that is expected of Methodism in a community the other branch shall be restrained from establishing a church there or trying to operate in any way in that section.

## SEEK COMPROMISE ON LEVEE BILLS

SENATORS RANSELL AND NEWLANDS CONFER IN EFFORT TO GET TOGETHER.

### WOULD REACH AN AGREEMENT

Ransdell-Humphreys Measure May Be Made Part of Rivers and Harbors Bill, It is Said.

Washington.—Senators Ransdell and Newlands, Senator-elect Broussard, Robert H. Downman and George H. Maxwell held a long conference in an effort to "get together" on a suitable plan for levee protection of the Mississippi river.

The Ransdell-Humphreys bill and the Newlands bill were discussed at length, and those features of the Newlands bill to which there is objection in Louisiana were thoroughly gone over.

As Senator Ransdell is chairman of the Senate subcommittee on commerce, to which will be referred the annual river and harbor appropriation bill, the conference was of great importance insofar as the fate of the two big levee and river regulation bills, which have been a bone of contention in Louisiana, is concerned.

Both sides showed a willingness to compromise. Senator Ransdell made a proposition, it was stated, to Senator Newlands to take concerted action for the improvement of the Mississippi river and levee extension and flood protection, and Senator Newlands reciprocated by declaring that he would only be too glad to work with Senator Ransdell to secure the advantages for river control sought by both, though the methods of each might

cordially prevailed at the conference, all present seeming to be anxious to agree on something that would be satisfactory to supporters of both bills.

It was learned that many members of the house rivers and harbors committee are disposed to make the Ransdell-Humphreys bill a part of the rivers and harbors appropriation bill.

If the Ransdell-Humphreys bill is incorporated in the rivers and harbors appropriation bill levee work will be placed under the continuing contract system for the next three or four years.

## BLOW SAFE, GET NO MONEY

Yeggs Are Bailed When They Attack Madisonville Bank.

Madisonville.—After working for more than two hours in a vain attempt to blow the vaults of the Madisonville Bank here four yeggs gave up the task as a bad job and leisurely departed, not, however, before they had "shot up" the bank in their anger and disgust.

Citizens residing in the vicinity of the bank were awakened between 1 and 2 o'clock in the morning by several muffled explosions, but paid no particular attention to the noise.

The bandits entered the bank building by picking the lock on a rear door. They hammered the combination of the steel vault door until it was flattened. Nitroglycerin was then plastered along the steel casing of the vault door and the stuff set off.

All efforts to reach the cash proved unavailing, and the robbers proceeded to empty their revolvers into the glass doors at the front of the bank. The shots brought out several citizens, who reached the bank in time to see four men riding away on horseback.

## Dentists to Meet in June.

Baton Rouge.—The Louisiana State Dental Society, of which Dr. C. Bourgeois is president, will hold its annual meeting here June 4, 5 and 6. Dr. J. H. Balin is chairman of the committee on automobiles; Dr. H. G. McKowen, banquet; Dr. H. J. Fellus, ball and press; Dr. C. Bourgeois, finance; Dr. Joe Jones, badges and registry; Dr. S. J. Powell, general reception; Dr. E. M. Jolly, program.

## East Baton Rouge Seeks School.

Baton Rouge.—A committee of negroes called on Governor Hall and Superintendent of Education Harris and urged that the negro university, recently removed from New Orleans, be located in East Baton Rouge. Assurances were given that some action would be taken in the matter at an early date.

## PLAN FOR IMMIGRATION WORK

Leading Iberville Citizens to Colonize 10,000 Acres of Land.

Plaquemine.—An important movement for the promotion of immigration to this state has been started here. A meeting of the most prominent sugar planters, bankers, business men and landholders of Iberville was held at the courthouse to devise ways and means of placing alluvial lands on the market for colonization purposes. It is the aim of the organization to secure, by pooling or otherwise, a body of 10,000 acres of land to be divided into small farms.

A temporary organization was effected, with Dr. W. A. Holloway as chairman and R. G. Comeaux as secretary.

Geo. W. Bolds, of the Indiana Swine Breeders' Association, addressed the meeting, telling of the favorable impressions the country had made on him and relating the great possibilities that lay in the Louisiana alluvial lands for general farming purposes. Mr. Oliver, of the Algiers Distilling Company, spoke on the "Ready Market for Corn Presented by the Distilling Plants."

The organization then entered into a business session, approved the form of subscription and appointed a committee of nine to report at a subsequent meeting for permanent organization.

## COL. T. H. LEWIS IS DEAD

Head of Democratic State Committee Succumbs in New Orleans.

New Orleans.—Colonel Thomas H. Lewis, veteran soldier, distinguished lawyer and well-known citizen of Opelousas, St. Landry parish, leader in political reforms in Louisiana for the past half-century, died at Touros infirmary, age 78 years. He was "father" of the Democratic Good Government League and was chairman of the Democratic state central committee of Louisiana at the time of his death.

Death followed a serious operation for an old organic trouble. He did not take an anaesthetic, but watched the surgeons work, the pain being relieved by the use of a local anesthetic. Apparently he survived the ordeal splendidly, but several days later he began to fail, and gradually sank to his death, which came quietly and peacefully.

Besides his wife, age 74, who sat by his bedside constantly, he was surrounded by his four sons, John W. Lewis, of Opelousas; Dr. M. D. and James J. Lewis, of Eunice; Thomas H. Lewis, Jr., of Houston; a daughter, Mrs. W. S. Frazee, of Pearl River, and the family circle was augmented before the end by the arrival of his two brothers, Judge Edward T. Lewis, of Jennings, age 80, and William B. Lewis, of Opelousas; Aug Crochet, of Opelousas; Mrs. Ginder Abbott and Mrs. Warren Patrick, daughters of Judge Frank D. Chretien, nieces of Colonel Lewis; Mrs. John Long, William Lewis and George M. Conrad, cousins of the Criminal District Court, all relatives.

Colonel Lewis was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. The remains were taken to Opelousas and the funeral was held there.

## HERO'S WIDOW GETS REWARD

Carnegie Commission Recognizes Deed of Louisiana Man.

Pittsburg, Pa.—Individual acts of heroism which the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission has recognized since it was established ten years ago were brought up to a total of 871 when thirty names were added to the honor roll.

Among the awards is a pension of \$30 monthly to the widow of John W. Day, who died in an attempt to save Robert H. Clark from burning at Oakhill, La., April 12, 1913. A silver medal for heroic conduct of Day is also given to the widow, who at present resides at Kentwood, La.

## Bridge Painter Falls to Death.

Monroe.—William McQuiller, a painter employed by the Blodgett Construction Company in painting the city traffic bridge, fell to the floor of the bridge from the superstructure and broke his neck. Death was instantaneous. McQuiller went to work for the company in the morning and had been working less than a day when he was accidentally killed.

## Fire Loss \$30,000.

Morgan City.—Fire totally destroyed the factory of the Pease-Gilmore Column Company at Berwick causing a loss said to approximate \$30,000, covered by about \$12,000 insurance. The warehouse, where a quantity of stock columns were stored, was likewise destroyed. The plant had been shut down several months.

## CITY TO PURCHASE PRISON PROPERTY

BATON ROUGE COUNCIL VOTES TO PAY \$35,000 CASH FOR THE SITE.

### DEAL CANNOT BE CLOSED

Governor Hall Declines to Enter Into Contract Until the Next Legislature Takes Action.

Baton Rouge.—The city council of Baton Rouge, at a special session called by Mayor Grouche, authorized the appointment of a committee of three to enter into a formal contract with the board of control for the sale to Baton Rouge of the state prison walls, in the heart of the city, for \$35,000, and the payment of this sum in cash to the board when the board is in a position to give title to the property.

Under the terms of the agreement, made during the administration of the late Mayor Jules Roux, the city is to pay the board of control \$25,000 for the penitentiary site in Baton Rouge, but the legislature provided for the sale of the property to the city for not less than \$20,000 and twenty acres of ground. The board of control held that it did not want the twenty acres of ground, and agreed on the total of \$35,000 in cash, the board to purchase its own land.

At a conference with Governor Hall, the committee urged that the state board sign the agreement to sell to the city at the price fixed, delivery of title and cash paid when the legislature passed a bill authorizing the sale for \$35,000. Governor Hall thought it was best not to enter into such an agreement, but to allow matters to remain as they are and to await the action of the legislature in the matter.

## SULPHUR SCHOOL IS FIRST

Superintendent Harris Says it Leads All Others in State.

Baton Rouge.—"The best high school in this or any other state," is what State Superintendent of Education T. H. Harris thinks of the Sulphur High School. Mr. Harris has returned from an inspection of high schools of several parishes.

"The Sulphur school approaches nearer what I would call an ideal school than any other I have seen," said Mr. Harris. "They have a magnificent brick school building and 400 students. The people of the community are progressive and have selected an interested and intelligent school board, and this board has adopted all of the most improved methods of high school instruction."

"The school has a literary course for those students who desire to specialize in languages. A first-class domestic science department teaches the girls the principles of household economics."

## TO GET PLANS FOR LOCKS

Property Owners Want Action Taken on Bayou Lafourche Work.

Baton Rouge.—As the result of a visit of a large delegation from Ascension parish to Governor Hall the Atchafalaya and Lafourche levee boards will make plans and have estimates secured for the construction of the Bayou Lafourche locks. Steps to this end will probably be taken at an early meeting of the two boards, but by it the board is not committed to an early plan for the construction of the locks.

R. N. Sims and Walter Lemann, of Donaldsonville, were the spokesmen for the delegation that appeared before Governor Hall. They insisted that some steps be taken at once to have the plans drawn, and to get some figures on the cost of the work. The United States government, they thought, might at any time require the removal of the dam across Bayou Lafourche, which the government allowed constructed as a temporary relief measure, with the understanding that it was to come down and locks later built.

Victor M. Lefebvre and J. A. Humphreys, of the Atchafalaya levee board, were present. They said that the board was willing to build the locks, but that it did not have the money at this time to begin the task, and had a higher obligation to perform in the building of the levees for the protection of the country below.