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FINANCIER CHARGED IN FRISCO

FINANCIER HELPED TO BANKRUPT RAILROAD, SAYS COMMERCE COMMISSION.

OFFICERS PROFITED

Bonds When Insolvency Was Declared, Is Condemned by the Government Investigators.

Washington.—Financial operations, which include the acquisition of lines through syndicates which profited more than \$5,000,000, some of which were pocketed by the road's own officers, are cited as among the underlying causes for the insolvency of the Louisville and San Francisco Railroad in a report to the Senate by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Chairman, E. E. Clark, states in a report transmittal addressed to President Wilson, that no recommendations were called for in the resolution adopted by the Senate directing investigation.

The report declares that the inability of the Frisco to meet its obligations was not to have been apparent for some time before the application for receivership; that strenuous efforts were made by its officers to tide over the difficulties from day to day; that money was borrowed from all available sources until every avenue of assistance was exhausted, market securities being either sold or pledged as collateral under the numerous loans, and that notwithstanding the distressed financial condition, the road sold to Speyer & Co. of New York \$2,000,000 of its general lien 5 percent bonds, a transaction which the commission condemns.

The acquisition through a syndicate of the operation of the St. Louis, New Orleans and Mexico Railway Company, the report says, represented a profit of 75.66 per cent on the subscription of each syndicate member. The syndicate was composed of 99 members, who contributed \$3,980,999.99 toward the construction of the railroad, and the report adds, "the effect of the entire transaction was that the syndicate secured a profit of \$3,011,100, which included the profits on the cash donations and syndicate operations."

PLOT AGAINST HUERTA

Arrest Wellknown Mexicans Charged With Conspiracy.

Washington City.—The police authorities here have broken up a conspiracy to overthrow the Huerta administration. Several wellknown Mexicans, including Colonel Vito Alessio Robles, among those arrested. It is alleged that General Eugenia Reason, former governor of Oaxaca, and General Fernando Gonzales were involved in the plot. They have not been named.

ARMY SLAIN BY HIS SON

Efforts to Save the Life of His Mother.

Washington.—Fearing for the life of his mother and other members of his family, John C. Clark Jr., aged 15, shot and killed his father at their home, according to testimony before the coroner's jury.

Clark testified that the father came home drunk and threatened to kill his wife, Mrs. Clark fled. When her husband started to attack their 15-year-old daughter, the boy shot his father. His wife and nine children were not arrested. Clark is a member of a firm of planters.

Wants Continuous School

Characterizing the closing of public schools in the country as "primitive and preposterous" and declaring the most important problem of today was to keep the children from three months' confinement in the streets, P. P. Claxton, commissioner of the United States Bureau of Education, approved a plan which would mean continuous school sessions, and through which 2,000,000 children might be enlisted in vocational training.

Lucius N. is Indicted

Washington.—Lucius N. and William H. B. brothers, the former an ex-convict, have been indicted by a grand jury charged with conspiracy in a diamond necklace value \$100,000. The defendants are glove makers at Gloversville, N. Y. The government alleges that Lucius brought the necklace when he returned abroad a few weeks ago, and turned it over to his brother.

JOHN B. DENSMORE



John B. Densmore, the new solicitor of the United States department of labor, who went to Calumet, Mich., as the government's representative in the effort to end the copper mine strike by mediation. Mr. Densmore, who was born in Iowa and educated in Indiana, is thirty-six years old.

PLAN TO FORTIFY HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

ARMY AUTHORITIES WOULD PROVIDE PROTECTION FOR PACIFIC COAST.

Washington.—The annual fortification bills recommended to the house by Representative Sherley 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.

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."

Girl Gets Louisiana Estate

Washington.—Paraphrasing Macbeth, the supreme court held that T. Scott Burbank, a Louisiana planter, had protested so much that his domicile was in Texas as to prove that in reality he was domiciled in Louisiana. Burbank committed suicide while residing at Temple, Tex., in 1910. At the outset of his will he declared he was domiciled in Texas. He then placed limitations upon his \$100,000 estate in Louisiana passing to his minor daughter, which would have been impossible had he been domiciled in Louisiana.

Plan Great Radium Plant

Washington, D. C.—Plans for the construction of a great government radium-producing plant in Colorado were discussed by Secretary Lane and the Colorado congressmen. The Colorado delegation told Secretary Lane they would not continue opposition to the pending bills for withdrawals of radium-bearing lands from entry if assured the lands would be developed. A radium plant is already under construction in Colorado.

Oklahoma City—Forced to remove his prisoner from two county jails

Sheriff Binion of this city hurried Ben Dickinson, negro, in an automobile to a secret hiding place. Dickinson is charged with the murder of W. A. Chaffin, sales manager in Oklahoma for a cereal company. He was lodged in the county jail here, but was taken to Norman, in an adjoining county, when a mob gathered. Later persistent telephone inquiries as to the whereabouts of the negro caused his second removal.

GREATEST BANK TO ENTER NEW SYSTEM

NATIONAL CITY OF NEW YORK WILL FALL IN LINE, IT IS REPORTED.

OPPOSED CURRENCY MEASURE

Intended, It Was Believed, to Create State Institution That Would Overshadow Regional Bank.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. New York.—That the National City Bank, the largest institution of its kind in the country, in all probability will enter the new federal reserve system, was learned from officials of the bank. It was rumored that the National City bank contemplated merging with the Corn Exchange bank, the largest state institution. Such an institution would have created a state bank whose combined resources probably would overshadow any regional bank. It is probable that no official statement will be made until the return of President Frank A. Vanderlip, president of the National City bank, who is in Paris.

Financiers not affiliated with the National City bank expressed surprise when informed of its intention, chiefly because of the opposition to the currency bill maintained by President Vanderlip and other officers of the bank. It is the opinion of bankers that the action of the National City bank insures the entry of virtually all other national banks of importance in this section of the country.

Some of the largest national banks of this city already have applied for membership. Few banks of the first rank remain to be heard from.

One of the chief causes of opposition on the part of New York banks to the new federal system has been the belief that they would be deprived of the power of keeping funds of out-of-town institutions which aggregate hundreds of millions of dollars and the handling of which has been extremely profitable. Under the new system these funds will be diverted to the regional banks.

GOETHALS MAY HEAD POLICE

Will Become New York Commissioner Under Certain Conditions.

Panama.—Col. George W. Goethals, chief engineer of the Panama canal, has signified his willingness to accept the position of police commissioner of New York city under certain conditions. These are as follows:

That he be permitted to remain on the isthmus until the canal is in successful operation.

That he be given complete control over the Police Department, including the right to dismiss incompetent men without their being able to appeal to a court.

A message from Mayor Mitchell says that he will attempt to meet Colonel Goethals' conditions. He will have introduced in the New York legislature a bill giving the police commissioner added powers.

Panic Death to 75.

Batavia, Dutch East Indies.—Fifty-eight children, 16 women and one man were killed during a panic caused by a fire at a moving picture show at a plantation in the Dutch residency of Surabaya. Most of the victims were trampled to death or suffocated.

WOMEN TAKE PART IN RIOT

Many Injured in Clash Between Colorado Militia and Strikers.

Trinidad, Colo.—Twenty or more persons, including eight women, are under arrest and at least five are known to be suffering from injuries as the result of a street riot here when the militia, under the personal direction of Gen. John Chase, broke up a mob of strikers and strike sympathizers which was attempting to march to San Rafael hospital, where "Mother" Jones is held under military arrest.

Stones, bottles and bricks were hurled at the militiamen by a crowd of angry women, who precipitated the outbreak when they were ordered by soldiers to turn back.

New York.—At present there are registered in the various parts of the world nearly two million motor vehicles, according to statistics just compiled by the office of the secretary of state of New York. In this total the United States heads the list, having more than twice as many automobiles as Great Britain.

German Crown Prince Attacked

Berlin.—An unsuccessful attempt to attack Crown Prince Frederick William of Germany was made as he was alighting from his automobile at his palace. A man ran into the carriage way and reached the door of the motor car. The sentry in front of the palace seized and overpowered the man who appeared to be insane. The man gave his name as Leopold Salomon and his age as 26. He declared confusedly that he was a brother of the crown prince and wished to ask him for assistance.

MISS BELLE WILLARD



Miss Belle Willard, daughter of Joseph E. Willard, American ambassador to Spain, whose engagement to Kermit Roosevelt, son of Colonel Roosevelt, has just been announced. Her home is in Richmond, Va., but she is now in Madrid.

MURPHY WANTED TO RULE, SAYS SULZER

DEPOSED GOVERNOR GIVES INSIDE HISTORY OF HIS SPLIT WITH BOSS.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. New York.—William Sulzer testified under oath that Charles F. Murphy, Tammany leader, threatened to wreck his administration as governor of New York if he did not appoint James E. Gaffney commissioner of highways. Sulzer said he had declined to make the appointment after United States Senator James A. O'Gorman told him that Gaffney was Murphy's "chief bagman," and that Gaffney had attempted to hold up James O. Stewart, a state highway contractor, and client of the senator, for \$100,000 "and that to appoint him would be a disgrace to the state of New York."

Sulzer's testimony was his first sworn statement of charges he has made against Murphy, and in many particulars he added to and elaborated them.

Sulzer appeared as a witness in District Attorney Whitman's "John Doe" inquiry into state highway graft. He was called to explain why, as governor-elect, he had sent a telegram to the State Canal Board, requesting it to defer action on a \$3,000,000 canal contract, upon which Stewart was lowest bidder. Stewart, who failed to get the contract, testified at a previous hearing that a man named Gaffney had asked him for a contribution of five per cent of the contract.

Sulzer said that he had sent the telegram because he had been told there was danger that Stewart's bids would be thrown out, and that this would be a great injustice to Stewart and the state of New York. Because he requested the Canal Board to defer action, Sulzer said, Murphy summoned him, and told him he was "butting in where he did not belong," and that he was "not beginning right as governor."

When Sulzer resented this and told the Tammany chief he intended to be his own governor he swore that Murphy replied:

"Like hell you will. I'll see where you'll end up damned quick."

Sulzer indicated this interview marked his first clash with Murphy.

Paris.—The French foreign office instructed the French minister to Mexico to protest to Provisional President Huerta against the suspension of the payment of interest on the Mexican public debt. It is said that the note to Provisional President Huerta mentions in careful terms that the French government will now exercise its privilege of forced collection of the Mexican customs duties. The document is framed in such a way as to imply tacit approval of the Mexican policy of the United States.

Five Die in Burning House.

Alpena, Mich.—Five persons were burned to death here in a fire which destroyed the residence of Samuel Bloise. The victims were Mrs. Bloise, three children and her brother-in-law, Mr. Bloise, a 14-year-old son and an infant escaped. A terrific blizzard and deep snow drifts made it difficult for the fire department to reach the burning dwelling and before aid could be given the occupants were cut off from escape.

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.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. 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 vary.

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 Balked 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 yeggmans 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. Ballin is chairman of the committee on automobiles; Dr. H. G. McKowen, banquet; Dr. H. J. Feltus, 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.

Old Ladies' Home Planned.

Baton Rouge.—An organized movement to build and maintain in Baton Rouge an old ladies' home has been inaugurated by the Manse Circle. The work of raising funds is being directed by Mrs. Ed McGovern and Mrs. George Garig. Robert Hart has donated a lot of ground in South Baton Rouge for the site. The home to be nonsectarian, and needy spinsters and widows will be eligible for admission.

PLAN FOR IMMIGRATION WORK

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

Western Newspaper Union News Service. 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, businessmen 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.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. New Orleans.—Colonel Thomas H. Lewis, veteran soldier, distinguished lawyer and wellknown 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 anaesthetic. 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. Frazier, 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. Glinder 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.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. 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 this 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 Oak-Hill, 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.

Lumber Company Bankrupt.

Shreveport.—In accordance with a resolution adopted by its board of directors Jan. 7, declaring its inability to meet obligations and willingness to surrender its property, the Vordenbammen Lumber Company, Ltd., of Lafayette, through President E. H. Vordenbammen, of Shreveport, filed voluntary bankruptcy proceedings in the Federal Court. The schedule shows liabilities aggregating \$75,765 and assets aggregating \$105,533.

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.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. 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 Pindexter, 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.

STATE OFFICERS UNDER FIRE

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

Western Newspaper Union News Service. 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 Folsy; 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.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. 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 21 strikers indicted with them. A telegram to this effect was received by George E. Nicholls, special prosecutor from O. N. Hilton of Denver, general counsel for the federation.

To Make Sea Travel Safe.

London.—The task of securing greater safety for ships at sea and their passengers was dealt with in a thorough manner by the International Conference on Safety at Sea. The delegates of 14 nations signed a convention laying down regulations for the future. The convention provides for ice patrols, ice observation, reporting of derelicts, regulation of the speed of vessels during fogs, lighting of ships, life-saving apparatus and other precautions for safety.

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.

Washington.—The protecting wing of the federal government would be extended over every chicken, duck, goose and turkey shipped in interstate commerce under a bill introduced by Representative Bifenderfer of Pennsylvania. The measure authorizes the Interstate Commerce Commission to see that food and drink are supplied to poultry while in shipment within 24 hours of the time that they are crated. At 24-hour intervals inspection must be made to remove the dead and separate the sick from the healthy poultry.