

# LOST MILLIONS JUST PADDING

Paulhamus says the Puyallup valley farmers, organized, "are strong enough to spit in the eye of any railway official without fear of being annihilated." To learn how they attained that strength read article on page 8.

# The Tacoma Times

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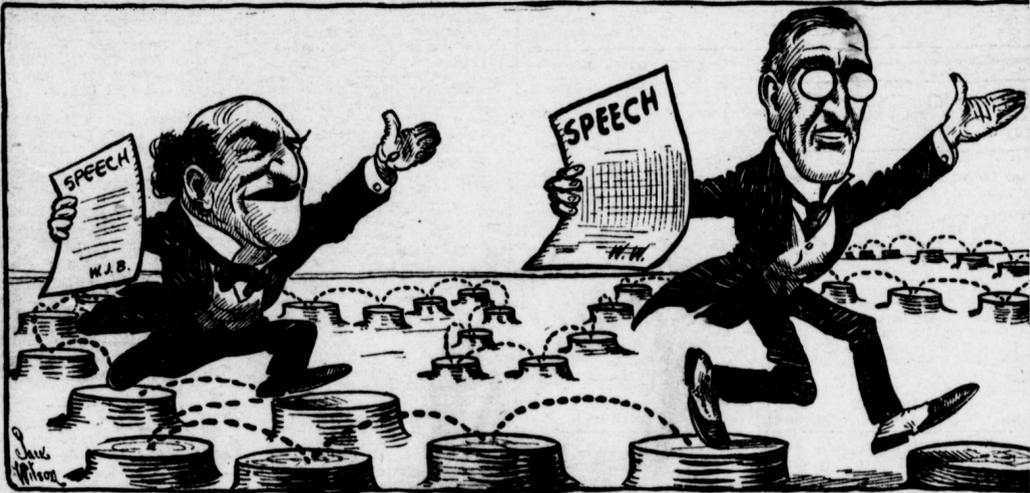
TACOMA, WASH., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1916.

Home Edition

**WEATHER**  
Tacoma and vicinity: Rain tonight and Wednesday, not so cold.  
Washington: Rain west, snow east portion tonight and Wednesday, not so cold.

# SLAVERS AUCTION NUDE GIRL

## STUMPING THE COUNTRY FOR PREPAREDNESS



## MARTIN COMING

### Reception Plans Fall Through Spite of All--Due Tonight

Mr. T. H. Martin, eminent Tacoma man, will return home, it is thought, on the North Coast Limited at 9 o'clock tonight.

The Times' suggestion, made in a page-one editorial a few days ago, that a band, string of autos and reception committee be at the station to greet him, has met, strange enough, with a very weak response.

Sam Wall, the lift-the-curse man, who surely is the logical Tacoma man to head the reception committee, was as hard 'p find today as front-yard roses, and we have to limp off to press with the admission that we haven't signed him up for the job.

Autos are floundering hard to navigate, and bands--well, nobody offered a band.

The reason we were so anxious for Tacoma to greet Mr. T. H. Martin properly was to recognize the splendid way in which he represented Tacoma at Washington during his present lobbying expedition.

He told the National Press club that the name "Tacoma" was quite passe as a title for the mountain, that it simply was not done any more by our best people, that "Rainier" had been agreed on by Seattleites and Tacoma alike, and lord knows what else.

P. S.--After this was written a printer suggested that the real reason the reception plans fell through is simply slush. Take your choice.

## Celebrate Thrift Day

Thrift Day is a new institution, growing out of a national movement several years old.

Its first annual observance will be February 3, day after tomorrow.

The way to celebrate is "by doing some thrifty deed."

A good deposit or a new account--either savings or checking--here would be one mighty good way to honor the new day.

**Puget Sound State Bank**  
1115 Pacific Avenue

## Tacoma Wants No Return to Spoils System

Tomorrow it will be up to the city council to dispose of a resolution looking to the abolition of Tacoma's civil service system.

There is just one course to be pursued by the council, if its members wish to act in accord with good sense and with the wishes of the majority of Tacomans.

That is to file and forget the resolution.

There positively is no demand for doing away with the present plan, except on the part of a few inefficient workers who are unable to obtain city jobs because they cannot come up to the required standards, a few cheap politicians who would like to have a finger in the appointments and a few mossbacks who consider that the methods which they learned in their youths are the best of all possible methods.

Tacoma does not want to return to the spoils system. What alterations is to be made in our civil service system must be an improvement of the system, not its destruction.

## GERMAN RAIDER SEIZES VESSEL, SAILS HER HERE

NORFOLK, Feb. 1.--In charge of a German prize crew, the African liner Appam, previously reported lost in a heavy storm, cast anchor in Hampton Roads this morning.

Immigration and customs officials boarded the liner.

Some passengers were found sick. All were excited by the strange adventures through which the vessel had passed.

They declared that a German armed merchantman attacked the Appam Jan. 15, off the Canary Islands.

The prize crew, in command of Lieut. Oscar Berg, was put aboard, then the raider disappeared.

Shots across her bow first stopped the Appam. The liner resisted capture, believing at first that it was pirates attacking, but the two guns aboard proved unequal to the task.

Both steamers lowered their boats. When the German prize crew boarded the Appam bloody fighting occurred on her decks. Several were injured, two dying later.

Commander Harrison then surrendered and the prize crew headed the Appam for America.

Berlin Admits It.

When the Germans captured the Appam they liberated a score of German prisoners captured in West Africa, en route to London. It is believed the prisoners aided the crew in preventing a mutiny during a voyage to America recently.

Berlin announced today that a British liner has been captured off the coast of Africa, and a hundred of the crew have been turned over to the Senussi rebels.

**SANK FREIGHTER**

The vessel which captured the Appam sank a meat-laden Australian freighter within sight of the Appam, the crew and passengers said. Beside the 300 passengers and crew, 300 British prisoners were transferred from the raider and brought here.

**BRITISH TO ACT**

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 1.--The British embassy is expected to request the release of the Appam.

## FLOODS MENACE

### If Chinook Wind Should Blow It Would Do Vast Damage Here

One of the worst floods in the history of Tacoma will occur if a Chinook wind melts the present heavy blanket of snow that covers Western Washington.

The danger from a chinook is chiefly to the speed with which it converts the snow to water.

City and county authorities are watching the weather anxiously today, fearing for the safety of bridges, sewers and other public improvements the minute that the thaw sets in.

James Hayes, county bridge inspector, consulted with members of the city council today over the condition of city bridges. It is believed that all city bridges are strong enough to withstand any flood.

Low Today, But--

"The Puyallup and other rivers are still very low today," declared the bridge inspector.

"But with all this slushy snow on the ground, a warm wind would cause floods of almost unheard-of proportions. I think that all of the county bridges are safe enough to withstand the high water, but one never can tell what might happen in flood time.

The rivers are low today because the slight warm spell in Tacoma did not affect the foothills where the rivers get their conception. Freezing weather still prevails there."

**City Hall Leaks.**

Today's slight thaw caused endless trouble in Tacoma.

So heavy did the snow become on the 11th street bridge, that it was necessary to send a squad of men to clear it off before the lift could be raised. "There were 75 tons of wet snow on the bridge, and it wouldn't budge an inch until we had the weight removed," said Commissioner Woods.

The roof of the city hall threatened to collapse today when eight inches of snow on it began to melt. The pressure of the soggy snow caused the roof to bulge downwards in several places, and several leaks formed sending streams of water down into the offices below. Workmen shoveled a large part of the snow away.

**Sewers Are Heavily Loaded.**

Sewers are filled to capacity with slush and water. No breaks have occurred. Commissioner Woods declared today that immense damage would occur if another freeze-up comes at this time.

City snow plows that have heretofore been pulled by two horses required four animals to pull them through the wet slush today.

Hill streets were impassable for automobiles unless equipped

## Where Do You Stand on Rates, Mr. Governor?

(AN OPEN LETTER TO THE GOVERNOR)  
Gov. Ernest Lister:--We are not addressing this note to you in any spirit of complaint. We know you are a very busy man these days, but--

We want to ask you this: Why aren't you joining with us folks in fighting to get back the rightful tourist travel to our northwest cities, of which the southern railroads have been allowed to rob us by unjust discriminatory passenger rates?

We are in the fight, every one of us--hotel men, shipping men, business men, auto clubs, commercial organizations. All--except that one degenerated, dying-by-inches Seattle Chamber of Commerce. And that one can't get in because its patched breeches are weighted down to the runboards with railroad money.

Is there any reason, Mr. Governor, why you, as the chosen leader of the folks of Washington, should not take an active leadership in this fight?

Surely you are too wise to be buffalooed by the wheedling, lying complaints of the prize double crossers representing the Seattle Chamber of Commerce.

Speak out, Mr. Governor.

## Pastor's Daughter Is Stolen From Doorway---Sold On Block

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.--Rescued from weeks of terrible slavery, pretty 18-year-old Marie Klein, daughter of Pastor Charles Klein of the Bethany Reformed church, told today how she had been kidnapped and auctioned, nude, to a gang of lustful brutes.

Missing since Dec. 16, she had been held in an Italian colony at Williamsburg. Her story of orgies there shocked even hardened police authorities.

"Jimmy Naples dragged me from our doorway on the afternoon of Dec. 16," she said. "He showed me a revolver and threatened to kill me if I tried to escape.

"Then he forced me to take \$400 worth of jewels and \$35 in cash from my parents, after which he drove me to a house in the Italian colony at Williamsburg, locked me in a room and took away my clothes.

"At a Christmas ball of the col-

onists I was sold. Naples had been the doorkeeper of my room and he admitted many men. The dance was breaking up and it was getting toward dawn. I was terribly ill.

"Naples called the men back and said I would be auctioned off. Then they brought me down nude, but I was too ill to know much of what was going on. Then they placed me on a stage and held me there while the brutes bid.

"I was delicious, but I could faintly hear them--\$25, \$30, \$32, and then by \$1 and 50-cent increases until I was sold to someone for \$55. I don't know who bought me, for I became unconscious and woke up in the cottage where the detectives found me."

Naples, the alleged abductor, is under arrest, but he was taken only after a struggle in which detectives beat him nearly unconscious to subdue him.

After the girl disappeared, it is charged, he terrorized her parents with threats to cut out their hearts if they sought to connect him with the case.

## ÷Talk o' the Times÷

Greetings, did you know that the T. R. & P. Co. is now known as the Tacoma Refrigerating & Packing?

That Sunset concern certainly is awfully careless. Right on the heels of losing completely \$1,059,745 of property, it develops that the company has paid another million dollars too much for poles, or, at least, thinks it has.

**THE PHILOSOPHY OF HAPPINESS**

Cheer up. It might be worse. Just suppose you had a quart, and no throat to swallow it with.

After all the poor man has some advantages. There is never a big crowd at his heels, urging him to run for office.

**THE SILVER LINING**

Anyhow, the motorcycles are practically out of commission for a day or two.

Old man Cover keeps shooting slush along faster than Owen Woods can haul it away.

**SPARKY DAY**

Page-one heads in last night's News:

"First sparks fly over discrepancies."

"Flareup in Lusitania crisis hinted."

"Sparks flying, but there is no crisis."

## LEARN TO DANCE "PAN-AMERICAN"

It's 1916's Red, White and Blue Step.



Miss Aimee Ehrlich and Robert Henri, famous dancers, creators of the Pan-American, have prepared six lessons which illustrate the latest dance.

The first lesson appears in The Times today. See page 5.

## USED FOR BOOST IN PHONE RATES, NOT FOR TAXES

Solved--the mystery of the missing millions!

No, we haven't found all those intangible bits of property of the Pacific which the company says it knows it owns but just can't locate.

Nor have we discovered the gold trimmings or something which, according to the figures of the phone company to the public service commission, have more than doubled the price of telephone poles in the last six years.

But though we have not found the missing telephone millions (and it is very likely that nobody ever will) the mystery has been cleared. The clue was found in a dry old law book (Chap. 182, House Bill No. 528) in a paragraph of a law passed by that notorious legislature of ours which sat in the halls of Olympia in the year 1913.

The paragraph was stuck away in an insignificant, out-of-the-way place where nobody would be likely to find it, except those who had it put there--in case of emergency.

Here's what it says--that the valuations of corporations' property, as made by the commission, "shall be admissible in evidence in any action, proceeding or hearing, EXCEPTING WITH RESPECT TO MATTERS OF ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION."

Get it? It's made to order--for the very purpose of allowing this telephone company of taking just as much cash out of its patrons' pockets as it thinks it can get away with.

**Just Pure Myth.**

That missing million dollars worth of property which the company says it owns, and that so-called million dollar jump in the price of telephone poles never have been, never are and never shall be, world without end.

The little joker, or rider, or whatever you may call it, in the public service law amendment of 1913, encourages a corporation such as the phone company to slap on figures by the dozens in the valuation of its property before the public service commission in order to get the very highest rates possible from its patrons.

For the law protects them. It says our county assessor cannot take the company's padded valuations and assess the company accordingly. The figures sworn to before the public service commission, cannot be used by the assessor in slapping on the taxes.

By no means. The corporation must submit an entirely new set of figures to our county assessors. The assessor, in spite of the fact that a valuation already has been made, must waste the taxpayers' money in making a new valuation and assessment.

Had Hunch, Maybe.

The property valuation submitted by the company to the assessor for taxation is just as extremely low as that submitted to the public service commission for rate making is extremely bulky with padding.

Something must have turned over at the state capital between 1911 and 1913. Perhaps the phone company had a hunch the rate hearing was coming up before long. It is certain the company didn't like the looks of the original law of 1911, which said:

"When the commission shall have valued the property of any public service company nothing less than the market value so found by the commission shall be taken as a true value of the property of such company used for the public convenience for the purpose of assessment and taxation."

So at the hearing in the Federal building the phone company is taking into itself property by the millions. At least one million of this it says can't be found. Another million it says is attached to its telephone poles. And so on, until they have valued their property, for the purpose of making rates, at \$10,000,000 more than the state engineers value it.

Tax this \$10,000,000. No chance!

The legislators of 1913 put up a fence to hide behind when it comes to taxation.

Now if the company could only bluff Chairman Reynolds and the rest of the public service commission, we phoners would have to pay.

But the public service commission isn't going to be buncoed.

**JURORS HELD OVER**

The January term of jurors were held over to try two criminal cases this week. A jury was drawn today to try Isaac Clauson on a second degree burglary charge before Judge Card.