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PRESIDENT HILL SAYS IT'S NOBODY'S BUSINESS

Whether He Will Resign Or Not--Is Not Drilling Son For Office.

"That's nobody's business." Slowly the reporter recovered while the gathered throng trembled chillily. This explosive utterance emanated from no less a person than the great president of the Great Northern system, James J. Hill, while the mouth-opened group about the luxurious special just gasped.

other agency I know of" was the terse commentary. "Both my sons are hard at work and do not require any drilling for any office in the road." "Is it true that you will shortly resign?" was asked. "That is my own affair."

LYNCH TRIAL BEGINS CHARGE IS TREASON

LONDON, Dec. 19.—It is evident that the government acted wisely in delaying the trial of Colonel Lynch, member of parliament for Galway, who is accused of treason in that he is alleged to have fought on the side of the Boers during the recent war. While the war was in progress Colonel Lynch's case was a subject of heated discussion, but when the case was called for trial today in the law courts there was a small attendance and but little public interest.

HEAVY MAIL.

The Spokane postoffice is probably our most bustling point at the present time. Yesterday was a record-breaker and all of the employees worked until late, a portion remaining on all night, handling the mail. The delayed trains, which caused the mail to bunch, also crowded the office to its full capacity.

SENTENCED.

In the criminal department of the superior court this morning Bert Caper was arraigned and pleaded guilty to the charge of horse stealing. Judge Richardson sentenced him to one year and six months in the state penitentiary at Walla Walla.

UNITED MINE WORKERS PREPARE CONVENTION

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 19.—The members of the national executive committee of the United Mine Workers are gathering at the headquarters of the organization in this city preliminary to the holding of the committee meeting which precedes the annual convention. The convention, which will begin its sessions one month from today, will be one of the most important and most interesting ever held by the organization.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS HOLDING CONCLAVE

A special convocation of the Uniform Rank of the Knights of Pythias of the state of Washington is in session at the Pacific hall on Riverside ave. This is a special call for the purpose of organizing district No. 2, which includes Spokane.

MARKETS.

As reported by the Coo Commission company: Chicago: Opening. Closing. May wheat . . . \$1.76 1/2 \$1.77 1/2

COAST PORTS GAIN IN GRAIN EXPORTS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—According to the figures of the treasury department, just made public, for the year 1902 every customs district in the United States shows a loss in exports and grain products except Puget sound and San Francisco. The falling off is from \$252,567,046 to \$168,255,856.

SHARKEY GUILTY.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—Detective Thomas Sharkey was this afternoon convicted of killing Millionaire Hamilton Fish. The jury returned a verdict of manslaughter in the second degree and recommended the court's mercy. Sharkey will be sentenced Monday.

A. W. Holland & Sons have concluded the sale of the Argo lodging house on Main st. The consideration was \$1950.

Charles R. Foss and J. R. Bowls of Sandpoint, Idaho, who have been in the city for several days past, left this morning for their home.

JURY DISAGREE.

The case of Albert Lembeux versus the Ervine Lumber company, which was on trial in Judge Belt's court, was given to the jury last night and, after being out all night, the jury came in this morning and reported that they were unable to agree. They were discharged.

MUSKETEERS.

The Covenant Order of Musketees of America held an election of officers last evening at the lodge rooms, College building. The following officers were elected: E. E. Green, past marshal; S. M. Gillette, worthy marshal; S. A. Bishop, lieutenant marshal; Ella M. Phillips, treasurer; R. E. Harbort, secretary; Ella McCauley, chaplain; E. L. Bridge, sergeant.

CAN'T FIGHT.

LANSING, Mich., Dec. 19.—Governor Bliss this morning notified the sheriff of Wayne county under no circumstances to permit the Corbett-McGovern fight. He said in case the sheriff desired more police force the entire state militia was at his disposal.

UNSATISFACTORY REPLY ARBITRATION PROPOSAL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—It was announced by the state department this morning that answers had been received from the triple alliance to the proposal of arbitration made by President Castro through Minister Bowen. The answers, while admitting the correctness of the principle of arbitration, are not regarded as satisfactory on account of the conditions imposed.

BOGARDUS.

Romaine L. Bogardus, former secretary of the Spokane Building & Loan society, was arraigned in the criminal department of the superior court this morning on a second charge, that of converting to his own use \$1000 in money belonging to the society.

SUCCEEDS IDE.

United States Marshal Hopkins today appointed George B. Debenbeck deputy United States marshal to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Deputy Marshal Ide.

COAL COMMISSION.

The time of the anti-trust commission was entirely taken up today with the examination of additional non-union witnesses, who testified as to abuses by union men.

WANTS A DIVISION OF YAKIMA COUNTY

SEATTLE, Dec. 19.—A meeting was held last night at Sunnyside, Yakima county, by the residents of the south half of that county, who are interested in the formation of a new county. Resolutions were drafted for presentation to the coming session of the legislature. These resolutions contain not only a description of the new county, but also some of the stronger reasons why a division should be made.

CEASE PARDOYS.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 19.—Chas. Nicholas has pardoned all students and 38 others who are now exiled in Siberia.

SEATTLE WINS TRANSPORTS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Secretary of War Root announced this morning that he had decided to accept the bid of the Boston Steamship company of Seattle for all government and military business from Seattle and Tacoma to the Philippines.

SEATTLE, Dec. 19.—The Post-Intelligencer prints the following special from Washington, D. C.:

Seattle has won a substantial victory in the army transportation fight. Secretary Root has agreed to forward the contract for Pacific transportation of troops and supplies to the Boston Steamship company, with the condition of the bid eliminated which required that 75 per cent of the business should go to Seattle.

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SCHOOL CHILDREN GIVE TO THE NEEDY

This is the last day of school prior to the holiday vacation and as a natural consequence the children are a happy lot. As has been the custom for a number of years, the pupils brought to the schools this morning something in the way of vegetables and necessities of other kinds to be given to the deserving poor.

NEW BUILDING LOAN SOCIETY FORMED

The Citizens' Savings & Loan society of Spokane incorporated today with a capital of \$2,000,000, divided into shares of \$100 each, and will do a building and loan business.

GETS A GHASTLY CHRISTMAS GIFT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The house today discussed pure food bills. Congressman Brown of Wisconsin found a package on his desk this morning and thought it a Christmas present. On being opened the box was found to contain a human hand sent by Adam Goshage, a veteran of the civil war, who wants a pension.

THE Wonder 409 to 413 Riverside :: J. HELBERG & CO. Tomorrow will be an eventful day at this store. Special prices have been made for that day in every department.

Extraordinary Event! Xmas Sale of SILK WAIST PATTERNS What is more acceptable as a Christmas gift than a beautiful silk waist? Often an expensive present to some, but this time within the reach of all.

OUR SATURDAY DOLLS \$2.00 to \$5.00 DOLLS Tomorrow 98 cents DOLL SALE DOLL Saturday 98 cents Just 100 20th Century Dolls

Millinery Event A stylish, becoming and very desirable hat for little money--VERY LITTLE MONEY. Our prices are not to be duplicated anywhere.

SEALS... \$2.40 RUBBER STAMPS 10c per line. SPOKANE STAMP WORKS. Auditorium Bldg.

FOOD BILL PASSES. WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—By a vote of 70 to 21 the house today passed the pure food bill, which prevents the adulteration of foods or drugs in territories and regulates the interstate traffic in all adulterated food stuffs or medicines.

Y.M.C.A. Night School 810 Riverside Ave. Class Fees Reduced One Half. Winter Term Opens January 5, Continuing Until April 1.