

MILLIONS IN GRAFT TO RAILWAYS AGAIN IN THIS YEAR'S POSTAL BILL

Subsidy for the Railroads Because They Say They Must Have It—Oblivion for the Statesmen Who Oppose This Mammoth Graft of Public Money.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 22.—About \$3,000,000 has been added to the sum appropriated for railway mail pay, in the bill which will soon be reported to the house by the committee on postoffices and post roads.

This will make the total \$43,000,000 for this one item.

Representative Chas. H. Grosvenor says this \$43,000,000 is about 20 per cent graft.

He claims that a comparison with the cost of carrying express packages will prove this. Former Senator Wm. E. Chandler, who several years served as a member of an expert commission to determine the cost of carrying the mails, agrees that this charge is excessive, but thinks the graft is hardly as high as 20 per cent.

Senator Chandler incurred the enmity of the railways in his state by making a report unfavorable to the railways on this subject, and was defeated for re-election to the senate in consequence.

Members of congress are in deadly fear of the railways when it comes to mail compensation, and so far as can be learned every member of the committee on postoffices and post roads voted for this item.

The postoffice appropriation bill also contains the yearly bonus to the Southern and the Atchison roads of \$167,175, of which the Atchison road gets \$25,000, while J. Pierpont Morgan's system gets the rest. This appropriation is known as the "special facilities" appropriation. It is not recommended by Postmaster General Cortelyou, nor by Second Assistant Shallenberger, who has charge of the railway mail pay. It never has been recommended by the department.

Chairman Jas. Overstreet, who is pretty nearly the whole thing on the postoffice committee, hasn't much of a defense for putting this special facilities item in the bill. Here it is:

"It has been there for years. The department did not recommend it because it has never recommended special facilities appropriations. 'The railroads claim they could not give fast mails without the subsidy.' Overstreet, however, promised to air the item on the floor of the house.

The chairman thinks that the greatest postal abuse is in second class mail. He says that the government is mulcted \$27,000,000 a year by this abuse. He doesn't say how much there is in the \$42,000,000 railway mail pay. But he declares the committee will go to the bottom of the second class matter. It is learned that the bill which Mr. Overstreet's committee has framed up will contain a provision for weighing and examining second class mail matter during a period of six months. This, it is understood, is for the purpose of laying the foundation for radical legislation at next winter's session of congress. An increase of the postage on second class matter is contemplated.

The house committee on postoffices and post roads is made up as follows:

Republican—Jesse Overstreet, chairman, of Indiana; N. D. Sperry,



CHAIRMAN OF THE POSTOFFICE COMMITTEE WHICH AGAIN ALLOWS THE RAILROADS OVER \$43,000,000.00 FOR CARRYING THE MAILS.

of Connecticut; Thos. Hedge, of Iowa; Jos. C. Silby, of Pennsylvania; Howard M. Snapp, of Illinois; Herman P. Goebel, of Ohio; Halvor Steenerson, of Minnesota; Wm. H. Stafford, of Wisconsin; Archibald B. Darragh, of Michigan; Victor Murdock, of Kansas; John

W. Dwight, of New York. Democrats—John A. Moon, of Tennessee; John M. Griggs, of Georgia; David E. Finley, of South Carolina; Jas. T. Lloyd, of Missouri; John H. Small, of North Carolina; Wilson H. Hill, of Mississippi; Marcus A. Smith, of Arizona.

PROSPECTS OF NEW COLLEGE ARE GROWING BRIGHTER

The movement to establish an institution of learning here to be known as the Spokane college is progressing favorably.

If the present plans of the people in charge are carried out, work on the first building will commence inside of a month.

The committee in charge has decided that they must have \$20,000 in hand before commencing the first building. Of this amount \$15,000 has already been subscribed by people outside of the city, and the chamber of commerce, working in connection with the committee, is making strenuous efforts to raise the remaining \$5,000, so work can be started at once.

The congregation of the Norwegian Lutheran church, located at the corner of Washington street and Sinto avenue, was the instigator of the movement to found the college, though it is not intended that the institution shall be in any way sectarian, and Rev. Johnson, pastor of the church, is in active charge of collecting the money.

The Washington Improvement company has donated 10 acres of land at Manito Park for the location of the college. The land alone is easily worth \$15,000 at the present time and is becoming more valuable every day. The land was presented, however, with the distinct understanding that there should be a building on the grounds capable of sheltering 150 pupils by Jan. 1, 1907.

In order that this may be done, it will be necessary that operations start at once, and so the committee, headed by Rev. Johnson, is bending every effort to getting the

necessary cash subscribed.

It is the intention of the promoters to eventually make the Spokane college one of the finest institutions of its kind in the northwest. The present plans include buildings and improvements that will cost between \$80,000 and \$100,000. But these buildings will be put up one at a time as the money can be obtained.

Rev. Johnson in speaking of the matter this morning, said: "We expect to start work on the first building inside of a month. At present we lack only \$5,000 of the amount required to start the work and we do not anticipate any serious difficulty in raising this. 'I have been relieved of my du-

TALK OVER INTERVIEW

(Scripps News Association.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 22.—Gompers was closeted with labor leaders today discussing the interview with the president yesterday. It is likely he will begin a propaganda on the problems enumerated yesterday in the memorial presented to the president, to Frye and to Cannon.

TRY TO STEAL FRAUD PAPERS

(Scripps News Association.)

PORTLAND, Ore., March 22.—Two unsuccessful attempts to rob the office of the United States attorney have been made here within the last few days. Investigation shows that it was evidently intended to steal papers connected with the land fraud cases.

DANGERS OF PNEUMONIA.

A cold at this time if neglected is liable to cause pneumonia which is so often fatal, and even when the patient has recovered, the lungs are weakened, making them peculiarly susceptible to the development of consumption. Foley's Honey and Tar will stop the cough—heat and strengthen the lungs and prevent pneumonia. La grippe coughs yield quickly to the wonderful curative qualities of Foley's Honey and Tar. There is nothing else "just as good." Chas. McNab, 402 Riverside.

QUALITY OF MILK MUCH BETTER

Dr. P. D. McCornack, city bacteriologist, is continuing his tests of the milk sold in this city and is authority for the statement that the quality of the milk is now much better than when he first went to work. He is now entering upon the fourth year of this work and says that during that time the quality of the milk has increased 300 per cent.

GOVERNMENT AFTER OAKES

The federal government has brought suit against J. W. Oakes and wife to cancel a patent to some land in the Big Bend. The complaint alleges that Oakes has committed a fraud by getting a patent to his land and not having visited it and resided upon it as the law requires.

YOAKUM IMPROVING

CHICAGO, March 22.—B. F. Yoakum, chairman of the executive committee of the Rock Island and Frisco systems, is recovering from an operation for appendicitis performed Tuesday. He rallied quickly from the shock and it is thought he is in no danger.

BEATEN BY BOYS

Late last Sunday evening Frank Freeman, engineer in the Temple Court block, was unmercifully beaten by five boys because he was instructed by the landlady to call the police to arrest the boys for disorderly conduct. Freeman was in bed for three days after the terrible beating he received. The names of the five boys are not known.

Freeman was attacked at the Riverside entrance to the block. His head was beaten against the cement sidewalk until he was unconscious.

San Francisco lumbermen have advanced the price of export lumber \$1.50 a thousand, making it \$15, and the coastwise list will also be advanced. The scarcity of logs is given as the reason.

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BITS OF NORTHWEST NEWS

Boyd P. Doty of Ohio is to be the new attorney for the Washington Anti-Saloon league.

An unusual number of strawberry plants will be set out at Kennewick this spring. Many newcomers are unable to purchase plants in the valley, as every grower has contractor for plants ahead.

A big bunch of horses, designed for the Japanese army, was brought into John Day, Ore., Sunday by C. J. Officer, a buyer for a Seattle firm, and Henry Trowbridge, an extensive breeder of Oregon stock.

Secretary Bonaparte appeared before the house committee on naval affairs yesterday and discussed naval appropriations. Among other matters he urged an appropriation for a stationary drydock in Puget Sound.

An attorney of the North Coast railway made a statement before the Yakima county commissioners to the effect that the Northern Pacific had proposed to give it a right of way through Union gap provided it would pass North Yakima 10 miles to the westward.

Acting upon the petition of the officers of the Seventh infantry stationed at Fort Missoula, the board of county commissioners of Missoula county yesterday passed a resolution revoking the licenses of the saloon men doing business near the fort.

Last week there was a rush by farmers at Hatton for seed wheat, but this week at least half countermanded their orders, as it is found the wheat was not damaged by the cold. Grain was blown out in places, and in these instances the land will have to be reseeded.

John Peterson of Kalispell, custodian of the John O'Brien Lumber mill payroll, who was held up on Thursday last near Somers, has been lodged in jail on account of suspicious circumstances. The theory is that he stood in with the play.

A remarkable well has been struck in the big glade about 10 miles from Prosser. A farmer bored for water, expecting to open an ordinary well, and at a depth of 79 feet struck a geyser. The water flows about six feet above the surface of the ground.

Eastern capitalists with whom R. DeB. Smith of Anaconda is in con-

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PAUL GILMORE IN THE CITY

Paul Gilmore, who shares honors with Kylie Bellew in the east as the most popular matinee idol on the boards, is in the city and presents tonight at the Spokane "Captain Debonnaire." With Mr. Gilmore as business manager is Mr. Weaver, brother of the genial manager of the Spokane, and that theater's former treasurer. Gilmore is having a most successful tour and the advance sale of seats predicts for him a most magnificent reception in Spokane.

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