

THE ALASKA DAILY EMPIRE

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PRICE TEN CENTS

WICKERSHAM ASKS CO-OPERATION

Arctic Brotherhood Convention Tomorrow

Practically all of the delegates to the Arctic Brotherhood are now on the ground, the Georgia having brought the Haines delegation last night. The convention has been called to meet at 10 o'clock in the Orpheum theatre which has been donated for that purpose by Manager John T. Spickett. An informal meeting was held today at which a committee appointed for the purpose made all the arrangements as to the hour of meeting and the place of meeting. Camp Treadwell meets in Douglas tonight and the convention will probably be a subject of discussion. Every delegate so far, who has expressed himself, is clear-cut in his opinions on the subject that calls them together. The convention is more than a protest against the grand camp's action in violating the constitution by attempting to institute subordinate camps in Seattle and Vancouver. There is not the slightest doubt but that action will be taken to cut off the outlaw grand camp from the order. It is not yet determined just what steps are necessary to make the separation from the alleged grand camp legal without taking action in court but it is practically decided that no further recognition will be given the grand camp—in fact Camp Haines and Camp Skagway are even now working under skag words not issued by the grand camp. There is a determination to institute a grand camp within

the jurisdiction of the order and to enforce all of the laws of the order that have been submitted to referendum vote. The delegates who are here and the camps they represent are as follows: Camp Skagway, No. 1—Senator J. M. Tanner, Judge H. B. Le Fevre, Max Gutfeldt. Camp Haines, No. 17—Judge W. B. Stout, H. P. M. Birkinbine, Grant Baldwin, Fred Handy, and Henry Brie. Camp Cleary, No. 22—Representative E. B. Collins. Camp Eagle, No. 12—W. B. Stout, H. P. M. Birkinbine (proxy). Camp Fairbanks, No. 16—E. B. Collins. Camp Iditarod, No. 27—J. M. Tanner (proxy). Camp Ketchikan, No. 20—D. Smith Harris. Camp Flat, No. 25—J. M. Tanner (proxy). Camp Petersburg, No. 30—Nelson De Brie. Camp St. Michael—J. M. Tanner (proxy). Camp Treadwell, No. 14—C. A. Hopp. Camp Sitka, No. 6—Dr. F. L. Goddard, Representative Shoup, Prof. C. C. Georgeson. Camp Wrangell, No. 28—Representative N. J. Svindseth, M. Katzenmeyer. Camp Seward, No. 21—Senator L. V. Ray and Rep. Kelly of Knik. Camp Valdez, No. 19—Senator B. F. Millard and Rep. F. M. Boyle.

KNIK WANTS BETTER MAIL SERVICE

Representative Milo Kelly presented copies of petitions of the citizens of Knik and of the Knik Commercial Club praying for a better mail service to their community and making charges and complaints against the service that is being rendered them by the contractors and Postoffice Department, yesterday. The original petitions are in the hands of Delegate James Wickersham to present to the Postoffice Department. The petition follows: "To the Honorable Postmaster-General Washington, D. C. Sir:—The undersigned citizens of Knik, Alaska, earnestly recommend that the Postoffice Department employ the Alaska Coast Steamship Company boats not to deliver the mail at Seldovia, Alaska, from April 1st, to November 1st, but to let these boats deliver the mail at Knik anchorage where they sail every month. We also strongly urge that all the Knik mail delivered at Seward, Alaska, every week be at once sent over the Alaska Northern Railway to Kern creek and from there be carried by local boats to Knik. If satisfactory arrangements cannot be made with the Alaska Northern Railway Company to carry the mail, this could be sent over the United States Government wagon road from Seward and delivered at Starise, Alaska, where the local boats there could pick it up and bring it to Knik. For the winter service we recommend that all mail matters in unlimited quantities, all first and second, third and fourth class, be brought to Knik twice a month overland from Seward, from November 1st, to April 1st. Signed by 101 citizens."

captains of our local boats over \$100 for this special privilege. At present the Knik mail is delivered at Seward from Seattle every week. "From April to October the Alaska Coast Steamship Company delivers mail once a month at Seldovia. The steamship Dora on her westward trip once a month picks up the Knik mail at Seward and also lands this at Seldovia. The small local boats bring the mail the rest of the two hundred miles up Cook Inlet. During the spring, summer and fall of 1912, the Alaska Coast Steamship Company boats called regularly at Knik Anchorage having all our mail on board, but here we were treated to the humiliating spectacle that these boats dared not deliver our mail but were obliged to take it back to Seldovia and for this reason our mail reached us one or two weeks later than it should. "From October to the middle of January we are entirely cut off from the outside world, since the first winter mail leaves Seward January first, and this mail is limited to two hundred pounds first class mail only, while our second class mail is left at Seward from October to April when the first boat brings it in. There is no valid reason why this district should be without mail service during the months of November and December. The Postal Inspector at Cordova claims that it is not safe to send mail during these months as it once happened through the carelessness of a mail driver the mail was submerged in water crossing a stream. The mail carrier himself admitted that had he crossed a little farther up stream this accident could have been avoided. The best proof that such peculiar objections to the betterment of our mail service are unwarranted is the fact that we sometimes daily, and surely constantly weekly send our mail over to Seward by private travelers. These travelers also bring our mail in during these months and the citizens pay for this service twenty-five cents a letter and seventy-five cents a pound for second class matter, which taken together is a gross hardship and expense to the settlers here. Thus it will be seen that most of our summer and winter mail is carried by private travelers and therefore the amount of collection at the local postoffice here is a very meagre and unreliable authority, and is no criterion to follow in forming a true estimate of our needed increase in the present miserable mail service. "Trusting that the Postoffice Department will come to our relief in this matter we remain, (Signed) Very respectfully, "KNIK COMMERCIAL CLUB, F. B. CAMRON, Vice-President, K. A. KYVIG, Secretary."

FIRE DESTROYS GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Last night about 9:30 the fire alarm was sounded and in a few minutes the streets were thronged with people rushing toward the Governor's House. A large part of the crowd that was attending the joint session of the legislature, interrupted Delegate Wickersham's speech and were added to the excited throng. The volunteer crew of fire ladders came tearing down the hill and then turning the corner toiled through the mud, dragging the heavy burden up the rise on Calhoun road leading to the Governor's House. Here flames were bursting through the roof and upper walls of the cottages situated on the government reserve just opposite the Governor's House. Flaming cinders floated over the Governor's House and into the nearby residences, but in a few minutes the fire boys had a stream on the building and the blaze was soon subdued, but not until the house was partially destroyed. The building belonged to the government and was occupied by Misses Thursty and Genter, government teachers in the native schools.

PURE FOOD LAW SHOULD BE PASSED

"The Legislature of Alaska should pass a pure food law before its adjournment." That is a declaration made frequently at the Occidental hotel by Phil Abrahams, the all-Alaska citizen of Skagway, who is a guest at that hostelry. Continuing, Mr. Abrahams, in discussing the proposition yesterday, said: "Practically all the States in the country have passed legislation for the protection of its citizens from impure and unwholesome foods, and there are as many or more reasons why the people of Alaska should be safeguarded by such a law as there are why the people of the States should be. It is a necessary step toward better sanitary and health conditions." Mr. Abrahams also wants the aid of jurors and witnesses increased and a law giving a man over sixty years of age the right to claim exemption from jury service.

FORCED OUT OF BUSINESS

Had no lease; no store available to move into, must sell entire stock of silverware, only 30 days to sell. Cut glass and hand-painted china at a sacrifice, as I have no place to store them.—I. J. SHARICK. t.f.

TWO STEAMERS CLEARED LAST NIGHT FOR JUNEAU

SEATTLE, March 11.—The following are the northbound passengers for Juneau and Douglas on the Mariposa and Jefferson which sailed last night: Mariposa for Juneau—W. A. Schade, Mrs. Gunther, Herbert H. Davis, Rudolph Blahut, Harry Fisher and wife, Theodore Bullough, Gus Scogland, H. L. Pratt, William Britt and wife, J. J. Cole and G. P. Goggin. Jefferson for Juneau—Mrs. E. C. Russell, Mrs. Jas. Freeburn, Dorothy Davis, Edith Boyle, Roland Williams, A. C. Thane, M. S. Tenner, C. N. Vick, H. Ahrenstedt and wife, G. J. M. Butler, David Leblanc, Mrs. H. E. Pratt, J. S. Harrison and wife, R. A. Gawley, Harold W. Scott, Henry Beety, Mrs. Emma Peterson, V. H. Wilhelm, Peter Cordex. Jefferson for Douglas—Miss S. Poskerneg, Marie Neupen, Richard Hasenberg and Ernest Waltman.

COURT NOTES

Charles Carison was given thirty days and costs in the Commissioner's court for assaulting Charles Erickson. The fine was suspended on a promise of good behavior. The case against Pat Morrissey was dismissed on account of lack of evidence. CLEANING UP THE CITY COAL BUNKERS There is no supply of coal on hand at the city bunkers owing to the fact that it was determined to clean the bunkers of every bit of the late shipments before unloading a fresh cargo. It is thought that this will be accomplished by Thursday. The Santa Ana is now on the way here with 200 tons of coal for the city bunkers and should arrive tomorrow night or Thursday morning. A complete line of tobacco jars and pipe racks at BURFORDS.

Joint Resolution No. 3 Is Bone of Contention

Senate Joint Resolution No. 3, providing for the appointment of a joint committee to prepare a coal lands bill seems to have become a bone of contention between the two bodies. The resolution as introduced provides for a committee of six, three from each body. The House being twice as large as the Senate claims that proportional representation would give them a larger membership on the committee and sent the resolution back with an amendment providing four members from the House and three from the Senate. THE SENATE The Senate evening session convened at eight o'clock. The committee on rules reported a failure to concur with the House amendment to joint resolution No. 3 and asked that a conference committee be appointed. The president appointed Senators Millard, Bruner, and Roden. The Senate then adjourned until one p. m. today, subject to the joint session with the House last night. The Senate convened at one o'clock this afternoon. Senate Joint Resolution No. 4, by Millard, relating to the hoisting of the United States flag over the building was introduced and adopted unanimously.

Senate Bill No. 3, an act to further amend Sec. 464 and 465, criminal code read first time, referred. Recess taken until 2:30. The Senate at 2:50 took up Senator Freeding's Senate Joint Memorial No. 3, asking the government to appropriate money for harbor at Nome. It was put on final passage and adopted. The Senate then took up Senator Bruner's Joint Memorial No. 2, asking that the mileage license be taken from the Seward peninsula railroad. THE HOUSE Kelly, of the Third, and Svindseth, of the First, each offered amendments to Rule 43, which caused considerable discussion in the House today. House Memorial No. 1 by Representative Milo Kelly, House Joint Resolution, by Representative Aldrich, and House Joint Resolution, by Representative Shoup, were all passed to second reading. House Bill No. 4, and House Bill No. 5, by Shoup, passed to second reading. House Bill No. 1, by Gaffney, House Bill No. 2, by Shoup, and House Bill No. 3, by Ingram were referred. The House Joint Memorial, by Driscoll, asking that the government build a permanent bridge across Chena river in the town of Fairbanks, was read the second time.

Great Northern Orders Two Mammoth Steamers

PHILADELPHIA, March 11.—Mammoth steamships presumably for use between Atlantic and Pacific ports through the Panama canal. The specifications require a speed of twenty-three knots for each steamship. Cramps Ship Yards at this place have received an order from the Great Northern Steamship Company for two

ment of Alaska at the special session next month. President Wilson assured Mr. Helfner of his interest in Alaska, and promised that he would give a further hearing at which Senators and Representatives and others who are interested in Alaska should be present and that they would have an extended talk over the situation.

Government Attorney Makes Statement

CHICAGO, March 11.—In the opening statement to the jury in the Alaska coal cases, the attorney for the government asserted that it had been the intention of the locators of coal lands to sell their holdings to the Guggenheims as soon as titles were secured. He said that correspondence between them and the agents for the Guggenheims looking toward securing this end had taken place and would be presented to the jury. He also charged that A. C. Frost had planned to turn all coal lands along the line of the Alaska Central, now the Alaska Northern, over to the Guggenheims. The case on trial is against Albert C. Frost, of Chicago, former President of the Chicago & Milwaukee Electric Railway Company and the Alaska Central Railway; George M. Stewart, of Chicago, former vice president of the same companies; Pierre G. Reach, of Chicago, former secretary of the same companies; George A. Ball, of Muncie, Ind., financial backer of Frost; Duncan M. Stewart, of Seward, Alaska, former governor of Sovereign Bank, former president of Sovereign Bank of Canada, and Frank Watson of Seattle.

London Lawyer Is Some Swindler

LONDON, March 11.—What is regarded as one of the greatest swindles of the present decade was exposed today when the police arrested Arthur Crippens, a lawyer of this city, for swindling Dr. Hans Borstuh, of Vienna, a physician, out of \$50,000.

President Asked to Take Hand

CHICAGO, March 11.—Lieut. O'Hara, president of the State Senate that is investigating the condition of working girls in Chicago, has asked President Woodrow Wilson to meet the investigators. NOME LEGISLATORS ALL IN ON STRIKE All the members of the Seward peninsula delegation in the Legislature that claim Nome as a residence are "lockholders in the 'Good Era' mine upon which the rich quartz strike has been made. They include Senators Freeding and Bruner and Representatives Gaffney, Aldrich and Jones. Representative Kennedy, of that Division, is a resident of Candle. All of the stockholders, naturally, are elated over the news from Nome of the rich strike.

SOMETHING NEW AT THE ORPHEUM

There will be an entire change of program at the Orpheum Theatre this evening.

Wickersham Political Feud Shows Head

The political feud between the "Wickersham" and "Anti-Wickersham" forces in Alaska showed its head above the surface for a brief spell at the joint session of the Senate and House that had assembled last night in the hall of the House to listen to an address by Delegate James Wickersham, and for a moment threatened to bring the proceedings to a close. As it was Senator Elwood Bruner, of Nome, withdrew from the meeting. The incident was precipitated by Delegate Wickersham's attack upon Representative Charles E. Ingersoll, of Ketchikan, because the latter had, as temporary chairman of the first meeting of the House of Representatives, criticized the organic act of the territory. As the attack proceeded it became evident that the Delegate's attack on Representative Ingersoll was in part because the latter had condemned the organic act in a "key-note" speech, and in part because he had formerly been a Wickersham supporter and had deserted his leader. The Delegate asked "Why?" in capital letters, but left the question to be answered by his auditors. Delegate Wickersham had hardly got fairly launched into his attack on the Ketchikan Solon, when Senator Bruner arose to a point of order. "We came here to hear a speech and not a lecture for one of our members," he said. "The Delegate to Congress was invited here as our guest to discuss legislation and proposed legislation, and to give us information as to the scope of our powers, not to attack our motives. I make the point that he is not proceeding in order, and ask for a ruling."

President L. V. Ray, presiding over the joint session, said that as Delegate Wickersham is not a member of the Legislature and not subject to its discipline, the only question upon the point of order is, "shall the speaker be allowed to proceed?" A roll call was ordered on that question: Three Senators and one Representative, Senators Bruner, Freeding, and Tripp, and Representative Stubbins, voted against permitting the Delegate to proceed. The other five Senators and fourteen Representatives voted in the affirmative. Representative Ingersoll was applauded when he voted "Aye." After the vote permitting him to continue was announced, Delegate Wickersham said that he was sorry anyone had objected to his criticism. "I do not desire to condemn any member of the Legislature or to question his motives so much as I desire to defend the Alaska organic act from what I believe to be unjust attack." Later, when Delegate Wickersham became more vitriolic and branched out into an attack on the Governor and the "Alaska Syndicate" and "allied interests," Senator Bruner arose and asked President Ray for permission to retire from the meeting, saying that he did not care to hear the speech any further. President Ray bowed his consent and the Nome Senator quietly departed. Without further interruption from the members the speech was concluded by his auditors. After the conclusion of the speech, Representative Milo Kelly, of Knik, first having received permission to interrogate the Delegate, referred to the criticism of the Legislature for approving the report of the Alaska Railroad Commission, and asked if the report published in the newspapers that Delegate Wickersham and Senator Jones had joined in telegraphing to commercial and other bodies asking for resolutions of approval for the report, was true. In reply, Delegate Wickersham said that he had not signed any telegrams of that character. He added, however, that generally speaking and in a broad way he approved of the report. That is, that he favored railroad construction by the government, but that he did not like that portion of the report favoring the purchase of the Copper River & Northwestern Railroad.

THE DELEGATE FAVORS TEAM WORK

Delegate to Congress James Wickersham pleaded for harmony between the Legislature and the Delegate in working for the best interest of "a great country that has suffered from strangulation because of government executive withdrawal orders," in the peroration of his stirring speech last night to the joint session of the Senate and House of Representatives held in the hall of the House. "I am not the appointee of this Legislature," he said. "I received by election from the people of Alaska the same as you did, and I am answerable to them for my actions just as you are for yours. You have many powers of legislation for Alaska and many of the powers of legislation are reserved to Congress. It is of great importance that the two legislative bodies—the one in which you represent the people and the one in which I do—should work together for the common good without regard to its effect on the next election. I will go as far as any man to bring about that kind of harmony, and if I could be assured of that kind of harmony I would here and now be prepared to assure you that I would not be a candidate for re-election. But that should not be necessary, and it is not." This declaration of Delegate Wickersham came after the delivery of a speech wherein he explained the powers and the limitations on the Legislature, and in which he bitingly arraigned those that had opposed him in Congress. In many respects, he had said, the Alaska Legislature has greater powers than it has been customary to extend to other territorial legislatures and in some respects its powers are more limited than others. The limitations in respect to legislation on the liquor question, he said, were unusual, and, on the other hand, the powers to amend laws of Congress passed for Alaska are broader than it had been the custom of Congress to grant. Prefacing his speech, which was in writing, Delegate Wickersham said that he had intended not to make a public speech or statement of any kind, but that things had come up during his stay at Juneau that had caused him to change his mind, and to welcome the opportunity to give expression to his views. The speech of the Delegate was

carefully and deliberately delivered. All the members of the Legislature were present at the beginning and all but Senator Bruner remained till the end. The Legislators occupied the stage of Elks' hall that is being utilized as the hall of the House of Representatives. The auditorium was packed with citizens of Juneau and visitors in the city, until it was half-emptied by a general fire alarm sounded because of a fire that destroyed a city residence. The text of the speech, in full, follows: Mr. President of the Senate, Mr. Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Members of the Legislature of Alaska: Pursuant to a joint resolution, unanimously adopted by both Houses of the Legislature, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House extended to me a joint assembly in the hall of the House of Representatives, this evening. The invitation was accepted and my purpose is to address you upon the legislative needs of Alaska and how to secure the wisest and best legislation through frank consultation and co-operation between the people's legislative representatives in both the National and Territorial Legislatures. Co-Operation Between National and Territorial Legislatures. The Constitution of the United States gives Congress supreme legislative power in a territory. In pursuance to a policy older even than the Constitution, Congress has invariably created a legislative body in each territory, and has by law given that local and temporary body such legislative power as it deemed wise, having due regard to the conditions existing in and surrounding each territory. Congress is not obliged to create a territorial legislature, as you may witness from the fact that Alaska did not have such a body from 1867 until it was created by the act of Congress of August 24th, 1912. Nor is Congress compelled to give the legislature of a territorial any defined or specific powers, but it may authorize it to exercise such powers as in its discretion it may think wise. While all organic acts creating legislatures in the territories (Continued on Page Three.)