

## DAVIS DENIES ALL BALLINGER WROTE

CHIEF ENGINEER EXPLICIT IN CONTRADICTIONS  
SENATOR FLINT SHOWS WEARINESS AT INQUIRY

Tells Attorney for Pinchot That Members of Committee Are Tired of Hearing the Same Thing Over and Over

(Continued from Page One)

a body as a protest against the method pursued by Secretary Ballinger.

On cross examination by Attorney Vertrees Davis admitted he considered the reclamation service inefficient and demoralized. He reiterated his absence of intent to impugn Mr. Ballinger's motives.

Mr. Vertrees read into the record a letter written by Director Newell on July 11 to Senator LaFollette, in which Mr. Newell said he had recommended to Secretary Ballinger that certain lands, withdrawn under the Garfield administration, be restored slowly so as not to attract public attention. He sought to draw from the witness the admission that it was upon this recommendation that Mr. Ballinger had instructed him to withdraw lands slowly, but the witness insisted that there were two different instances.

**Taft Advises Economy**  
Mr. Vertrees also read into the record letters exchanged between Secretary Ballinger and President Taft. The letters showed that the secretary had written to the president in regard to continuing reclamation work, but that the president had advised him to hold down on reclamation work in the interest of economy and that when Congress met he would take the matter up.

"When you were called as a witness," inquired Mr. Vertrees, "why did you show such reluctance to testify when it afterward developed that you were fully prepared with facts, figures and even maps, expecting to be called?"

"It is not of my choosing that I am here, I would rather not have taken the witness stand," Mr. Davis added that when he had been summoned by Attorney Pepper he had told Secretary Ballinger of the fact, and had conferred with counsel on both sides. Later, he said, in answer to a question by Mr. Vertrees, that he had merely discussed water power sites with him.

On redirect examination of the witness, Attorney Pepper began referring Mr. Davis to statements said to have been made by Secretary Ballinger, contained in various letters.

In a letter to Senator LaFollette under date of May 13, 1909, Mr. Ballinger said he had restored to the public main the lands in Montana, Oregon and Idaho, upon recommendation of the director of the reclamation service, who advised that the "information in his possession would not warrant further reservation of the lands."

"Do you know of any such advice given by the director?" asked Mr. Pepper.

"I do not."

**Senator Flint Interrupts**  
The witness also replied in the negative when the attorney referred him to a paragraph of the president's letter to Ballinger of September 13 last, in which the president referred to the fact Mr. Ballinger had said the reclamation service had recommended returning to the public domain land that had no water power sites.

Mr. Pepper began referring to other letters along the same line when Senator Flint interrupted, declaring all that ground had been covered before.

"We are busy men," he said rather impatiently, "and do not want to waste our time in listening to something we have already heard two or three times."

In reply Mr. Pepper said he was leading up to a final question, when Chairman Nelson exclaimed:

"Counsel must stop trifling with the committee and must not take up the committee's time by submitting testimony already in its hands. Please proceed."

"I am not trifling with the committee," replied Mr. Pepper hotly, "and resent that reflection from the chairman of the committee. I will not proceed until I am informed whether or not that is the judgment of the committee."

"Oh, let it pass," declared several members.

Attorney Pepper then read Mr. Davis' statement, made before the luncheon recess, and the witness was then asked if he stood for the assertion that he had not said Secretary Ballinger had "intentionally or consciously done a wrong act."

Davis replied that he referred only to Ballinger's acts and not to his statements.

When Davis was excused the committee adjourned until next week.

The committee will be in session next Friday and Saturday. It is expected that Director Newell of the reclamation service will be called as the next witness.

**GUGGENHEIM PART IN COAL DEAL IS DENIED**

Member of Syndicate Testifies in Government Inquiry to Cunningham Claims Cases

CLEVELAND, March 12.—An emphatic denial of the existence of any interest in the Cunningham coal claims by the Guggenheim syndicate was made today by Clarence Cunningham under cross-examination in the government inquiry into the Alaskan coal land claims.

"Have the Guggenheims now or have they ever had at any time any interest whatever in these claims?" asked Wm. B. Puck, attorney for the government.

"None whatever," Mr. Cunningham answered.

"What money, if any, has ever been paid by the Guggenheims in connection with these claims?" he was asked.

"Not one penny," Mr. Cunningham explained that he had always hoped some way would be found to come to an agreement with the Guggenheims, but that after a conference at Salt Lake City in 1907, when a tentative agreement was entered into, the opposition of the entrymen was so strong that the idea had to be abandoned.

The question of the much disputed affidavit which Mr. Cunningham signed and which was dictated by Louis B. Glavis was again considered in detail.

The witness, after stating that some of the clauses of the document were not strictly in accordance with the facts, explained that he had signed it because he was convinced of the friendliness of Mr. Glavis and trusted him not to put anything into the affidavit which was misleading.

## COMMISSION MAY VALUE RAILWAYS

AMENDMENT DELEGATES DRASTIC POWER TO BODY  
WOULD AFFECT ALL COMPANIES PLANNING MERGERS

Federal Government Seeks to Prevent Taxing of Public to Pay Heavy Dividends on Watered Stock

(Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, March 12.—The administration railroad bill was amended today in the senate committee on commerce so as to make commercial or market valuation of railroad properties by the interstate commerce commission a condition precedent to the merging, consolidation or reorganization of roads subject to the interstate commerce law.

This change, one of the most drastic yet made, opens the doors only to valuation of properties whose merger is contemplated. The committee has not by this action endorsed the various schemes for physical valuation of all railroads, but it has indicated that many bills introduced in both houses of congress.

The amendment imposes a handicap on such consolidation or merging of roads as the Union and Southern Pacific lines.

The bill, in section 14, authorizes a new combination in cases of reorganization, consolidation or merging of two or more railroads, to issue stock or bonds up to the par value of the merged corporations.

It was contended today that to permit the managers of mergers to issue stocks or bonds up to the par value of securities of the two roads would work an injustice and would result in taxing the public to pay dividends on watered stocks.

The committee amended materially the section prescribing conditions under which a railroad corporation may acquire the stocks or bonds of another and non-competing railroad by the issue of its own stock and bonds.

Representative Washburne of Massachusetts offered an amendment providing that the interstate commerce commission shall supervise the issue of stocks and bonds and fix the price at which they shall be offered for sale.

The amendment and others were not acted upon. The committee hopes to report the bill to the house next week.

**ROBBERS BLOW BANK SAFE; ESCAPE IN STOLEN BUGGY**

Institution's Vaults Withstand Explosive—Burglars Take \$10 from Till Then Flee

BLOOMFIELD, Cal., March 12.—An unsuccessful attempt was made last night to blow the safe of the Valley Ford bank. The burglars fled without gaining access to the vaults of the bank. The only booty secured was \$10 from the till. The robbers escaped in a buggy which they stole.

**JURY FAILS TO AGREE**

VANCOUVER, B. C., March 12.—Unable to agree on a verdict, the coroner's jury in the case of the Rogers Pass avalanche, which killed sixty-three men, was dismissed today. Some other judicial inquiry will be held. Three of the six jurors wished to bring in a verdict of negligence against the Canadian Pacific railway.

**AMUSEMENTS**

**BELASCO THEATER**  
Belasco-Blackwood Co., Props. and Mgrs.  
MATINEES TODAY, Thursday, Saturday.  
LAST TWO TIMES TODAY OF THE SEASON'S GREATEST SUCCESS, "THE MAN OF THE HOUR."

**FUN--COMMENCING TOMORROW NIGHT--FUN**  
The Belasco Theater company will offer George Broadhurst's famous farcical hit.

**WHAT HAPPENED TO JONES**  
There's absolutely nothing to this play but fun--fun galore--a laugh every half minute--it's the speediest fun show that has ever been written, and the hands of the clever Belasco players it's bound to prove one of the screamingly funny successes of the entire year.

If you want to laugh, see What Happened to Jones--if you have a grouch on, stay away from the Belasco theater this week.

Next Week--N. C. Goodwin's notable success, "THE EASTERNER," with LEWIS S. STONE and the entire Belasco company. Seats on sale tomorrow morning.

In Preparation--George Broadhurst's newest play, "THE GARDEN OF LIES," founded on Justus Miles Forman's story of the same name. This is going to be one of the biggest events of the theatrical year. It will be the first production of this play on any stage and the performance will be under the personal supervision of Mr. Broadhurst.

**LOS ANGELES THEATER**  
The famous English diving beauty, SEERE NORD, and 7 other big feature acts. If you expect to see this big vaudeville show you want to come early. First show tonight at 6:30 sharp. Don't be late.

**GRAND OPERA HOUSE**  
MATINEES TODAY, Tuesday, Saturday  
Phones Main 1967; Home A1967.

Here's a Rattling Fine Musical Comedy Offering Commencing Matinee Today

**FERRIS HARTMAN**  
And his merry associates will present a jolly big production of Louis Mann and Clara Lapina's rollicking comedy and musical success.

**The Girl from Paris**  
It's just as lively and up to date as the name implies; it's checked full of good things from start to finish. Filled to the brim with "creased lightning" fun--forty pretty dancing girls, beautifully gowned, in bright new costumes, and twenty-three of the latest catchy musical numbers. MUSIC, GIRLS AND FUN GALORE.

POPULAR HARTMAN PRICES  
Every Night ..... 15c, 25c, 50c and 75c  
MATINEE TODAY and Saturday ..... 10c, 25c and 50c  
Special Bargain Matinee on Tuesday ..... 10c and 25c  
Next Week--Frank Daniels' notable musical comedy success, "THE OFFICE BOY." Seats go on sale tomorrow morning.

**BLANCHARD HALL**  
One Appearance--Friday Evening, March 18  
ADELAIDE GOSNELL, Pianist

Adelaide Gosnell, the wonderful Child Pianist, has been rightly named the Greatest of Young Pianists. Her wonderful musical genius has attracted the attention of not only musicians, but patrons of music, who pronounce her the most finished Young Pianist of the Age.

Prices--50c, 75c, \$1.00. Advance Sale at BARTLETT'S, Opp. City Hall.

## PUBLICITY BILL IS GIVEN APPROVAL

HOUSE COMMITTEE FAVORS CAMPAIGN MEASURE  
NOTED MEN USE INFLUENCE TO FORCE SOME ACTION

If It Becomes Law, Congressmen Who Run Next Fall Must File Sworn Statements of All Sums Expended by Them

(Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, March 12.—The bill requiring compulsory publicity for election campaign contributions and expenses was reported out today by the house committee on election of the president, vice president and members of congress with a favorable recommendation.

The bill was introduced by Mr. McCall, Republican of Massachusetts. Action on the measure was accomplished only after prominent men who have been advocates of the measure had brought much pressure to bear. The bill had been in the committee since the session began.

Recently Perry Belmont of New York, Governor Judson Harmon of Ohio and Dr. Charles W. Eliot, former president of Harvard university, addressed letters which have appeared in print denouncing the inactivity in the matter and demanding that the committee take some action.

The Democratic members of the committee, led by Mr. Rucker of Missouri, after petitioning Chairman Gaines several times to call a meeting of the committee to consider the bill, a few days ago gave out statements strongly denouncing the Republicans for holding up the bill.

When the committee convened today it was with great difficulty that a quorum was obtained. After waiting for an hour and a half sufficient Republican absentees were found. The bill was taken up at once, and with slight amendments was approved. The Democrats voted for it and the Republicans being divided.

Those voting for the bill were Messrs. Rucker of Missouri, Harvick of Georgia and Conroy of New York, Democrats, and Ellis of Oregon, Republican. Mr. Sulloway of New Hampshire and Maiden of Illinois, Republican, voted in the negative. Chairman Gaines refrained from voting.

The reporting of the bill insures that it will be taken up by the house at an early date, and, according to the claims of both Republicans and Democrats, will pass the house. If it becomes a law it will apply to the congressional elections this fall.

The bill makes it mandatory for the treasurer of every political committee in any congressional campaign where two or more states are affected to file, not more than fifteen days nor less than ten days before an election, with the clerk of the house of representatives a complete detailed statement of all campaign contributions in excess of \$10 and their disbursements.

He must also file within thirty days following the election a final sworn statement. The statement must contain the names of donors and amounts given in cases where more than \$100 is given. In cases of less than that amount the aggregate must be furnished.

In the case of expenditures the names of persons to whom money is paid must be given in all cases where the amount exceeds \$10 and in cases of amounts less than \$10 the aggregate must be published.

The penalty provided for a violation of the law is a fine of not more than \$1000 or imprisonment for one year, or both.

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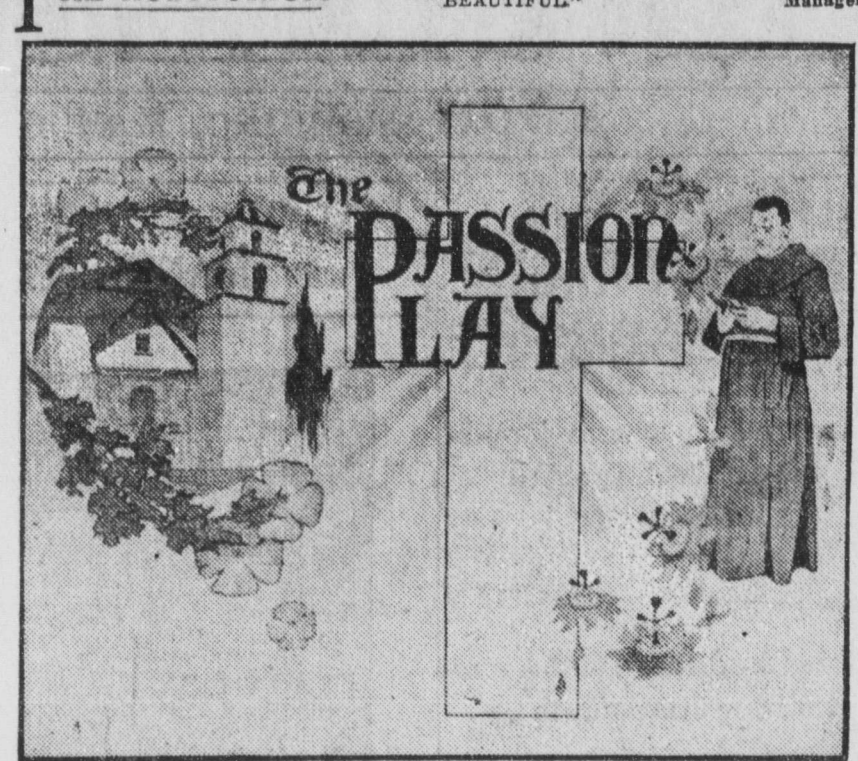
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Clap swings.  
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Julius Steger & Co.  
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ORPHEUM MOTION PICTURES.  
Nights--10c, 25c, 50c, 75c. Matinees Daily--10c, 25c, 50c.

**MOROSCO'S BURBANK THEATER**

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BEGINNING THIS AFTERNOON--THIRD BIG WEEK OF

**Sweet Kitty Bellairs**

PRICES 25c, 50c, 75c. MATINEES 25c. A FEW ROWS 50c. GALLERY 10c. Next Week--"MERELY MARY ANN." Debut of Marjorie Rambeau.

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IN JOINT PIANO RECITALS

**Paloma and Karla Schramm**

Sale of reserved seats commences tomorrow morning, 9 o'clock, at FITZGERALD MUSIC COMPANY, 523 Broadway. Prices, 50c, 75c, \$1.00.

**OLYMPIC THEATER**

ALPHIN AND FARGO present

The House of Hits and Novelties.

**OTHELLO FOR A DAY**  
A Classic Absurdity. 10 Big Singing and Dancing Novelties--10c, 20c, 25c.

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5 NIGHTS STARTING Tuesday, March 15th MATINEE SATURDAY

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Giving all the dangers, thrills and fascinations of life in the open, magically transferring to your very doors that wild, exciting life of the Far West which so many have read about, but so few have experienced.

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Mlle. Ilon Bergere, "Hungarian Nightingale," from Royal Opera, Budapest; Jeanie Fletcher, Scotch Character ballades; Clara Van Zandt, reciter and vocalist; Sig. Sirmo Locagli, eminent Italian baritone and violinist; last week, Helen Byron, popular comedienne, and Great Spanish Trio, Count de la Sierra, Senor Pla and Cavalier A.

Calvo; Kammermeyer's orchestra.

AFTERNOON TEA 3 to 5:30; After Dinner 8:30 to 10; After Theater 10:30 to 12:30.

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