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THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 1907

WASHINGTON

From our Regular Correspondent.

Washington, D. C. June 24, 1907.

In spite of the circumstantial report that Ambassador Aoki of Japan was about to be recalled, official confirmation is lacking. It is known that Ambassador Aoki has a number of enemies at the Japanese court and he has been put in a very embarrassing position, at least it would be embarrassing for a Caucasian, in having to report one thing to his government and see the government give out an entirely different report to the public. This case in the killing of the Japanese poachers on the Island of Paul and in some of the Japanese troubles that have occurred on the Pacific coast. Since the report of his recall, the Japanese foreign office has kept quiet, neither confirming nor denying the report, and at the Japanese Embassy here, the Ambassador has denied himself to all newspaper callers and explained through his secretary that it is impossible for him to talk on any subject even the weather.

As matters have developed, the Commissioner of Pensions seems to be doing a very thorough job of cleaning up land bounty grafters who have for years been fattening at the expense of the old pensioners. About six months ago, the Commissioner began to be aware of what was common knowledge in Washington for years, that there was a regular business being carried on in speculating in land bounty warrants. As many people do not seem familiar with the law, it may be worth while to explain that soldiers, their widows and their heirs of all the wars prior to March 1855, are entitled to a bounty of 160 acres of government land in addition to their pension. This is right enough if the old soldiers or their widows get it. But there have been many pension agents who have made a practice of hunting up pensioners who had not claimed their land bounty, putting the claim through for them and then buying the warrant from them cheaply as possible and selling it to the highest bidder. There was a regular market in land script, and a warrant for 160 acres was worth from \$700 to \$750. They were mostly sold to the big timber and mineral land companies. The attorneys used to get them from the pensioners to whom they were issued for from \$75 upward. They usually represented that the bounty was worth nothing after it was obtained, and one firm disbarred last week, was alleged to have made \$100,000 out of dealing in land script alone. In fact they did nothing else. There were many pitiful cases unearthed in which old soldiers and their widows had been shamelessly robbed and in some cases the pension firms would even have executors appointed for dead soldiers who had neither heirs nor widows. Some firms have been disbarred from practice before the Interior Department, and a number of others are now under investigation. Any who have been dishonestly treated by their attorneys can present their cases to the Commis-

sioner of Pensions and they will be fairly investigated.

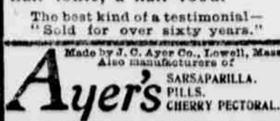
The officers of the government who are willing to sacrifice themselves on the altar of their country by taking a vacation at the seashore during the hot weather, are beginning to fit out of Washington. Secretary Metcalf of the Navy Department has just started on his summer vacation for the Pacific Coast. His home is out there, but he is going to investigate labor conditions and work in the shipyards, so it is quite possible he will be able to charge the trip up to the government. There has been trouble about warship building on the Pacific coast sure enough. The price of labor and material has advanced enormously, the former owing to the exactions of the labor unions, and the Union Iron Works which made a world wide reputation in building the battleship Oregon, has notified the Navy Department that it will be impossible for it to accept any more government contracts. This is annoying as it had been intended to have one of the two 20,000 ton battleships built on the Pacific coast. The Secretary intends to inspect the ship yards and will be in a better position then to say if there is any remedy for the present condition.

The trial of Edwin S. Holmes, formerly associate statistician of the Department of Agriculture, is proceeding. Holmes was the statistician under whom the famous "leak" in the cotton crop statistics occurred. According to the evidence now being given in court, it would seem that Mr. Holmes ought to be sent to the insane asylum instead of the penitentiary for not making more than he did out of his information. He was practically in sole charge of the cotton crop report for a long time and manipulated it to suit the needs of his clients who were playing the market. He had a sure thing and if he wanted to be crooked at all, it would seem that he might have made millions just as easily as he made thousands. The testimony shows that he was selling information to three or four New York cotton brokers and taking a rake off on their winnings. He seems to have been a modest young man and was satisfied with a small share of the profits. He made from \$40,000 to \$60,000 at a stroke but this seems mere chicken feed to what he might have made with the information at his command. It looks from the present testimony as though Mr. Holmes had profited from his dishonesty in very homeopathic doses.

It ought to be good news to all cities of any size that there is a fair prospect of the railroad smoke nuisance being abolished. The Geological Survey has been working on the problem along with its other

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FOR STATE TREASURER.

John G. Harman Will be Nominated by State Convention.

The Democratic State Convention in session at Harrisburg today, will nominate our distinguished citizen, Hon. John G. Harman for the office of State Treasurer. No one else is talked of, and unless something unforeseen occurs, he will be nominated. Mr. Harman attracted state-wide attention in the legislature by his fight for reform, and by his able speeches. He has not sought the office, and if it comes to him it will come without any solicitation on his part.

Treasurer Berry will be temporary and permanent chairman of the convention. He spent most of his time yesterday in company with Colonel James M. Guffey, State Chairman Charles P. Donnelly and ex-State Chairman J. K. P. Hall. Mr. Berry's speech will be aimed to spread a belief that there would have been a poor chance of an uncovering of the Capitol thieves if the Democratic party, aided by honest Republicans had not elected its State Treasurer candidate. The Berry speech will also review the revelations of the robberies committed under their noses, if not with the connivance of Republican State officers, and will be, in connection with the platform, the key-note of the approaching State campaign. We will print it in full next week.

The platform will deprecate Republican Machine attempts to throw dust into the eyes of the robbed taxpayers by booming a Presidential candidate and eulogizing Roosevelt. As to the deductions from the Capitol probing, there will be a demand for Congressman Cassell's resignation, a severe condemnation of the Auditor General's department and a demand upon the present State Administration for speedy prosecution, criminally and civilly, of the Capitol grafters.

Unequal and unnecessary taxation, causing the huge surplus of State funds in banks especially favored by Machine politicians, will be denounced in the platform. It will contain strong anti-Trust declarations and will condemn the Republican majority of the Legislature for killing ballot reforms in the last session. The defeat of the McCord bill, for a popular vote at the primaries upon United States Senatorial candidates, will also be condemned. Insufficiency of the fines for violations of the railroad laws recently passed will be denounced. It will be pointed out that if so much of the public funds had not been stolen it would not be necessary to ignore the civil war veterans in the present appropriations.

Columbia Park in Gala Attire.

Columbia park at Lime Ridge, is now running full blast and there are but few parks of its size in Central Pennsylvania that are so well equipped to accommodate a large crowd as is this place. J. W. Peifer, the manager, has had erected two new cottages and these together with the other buildings will shelter a crowd of 4000 in case of rain. Fine flower beds have been laid out and present a very beautiful appearance. Scattered around through the grove are benches and tables which are used for basket picnics, while a new dining room large enough to accommodate 100 persons, has recently been erected for picnickers who wish dinners prepared on the grounds.

Almost every day there are several private parties on the grounds, and Mr. Peifer already has a large number of picnics booked for the present season, the parties coming from Danville, Bloomsburg, Catawissa and Berwick.

Last summer there were picnics at the park every day, many of the Sunday schools from this section having their annual outings at Columbia park, and the booking this year includes almost all of the institutions that picnicked at the park last summer, which alone speaks well for Columbia park.

Mr. Bittenbender, the assistant, is a hustler, and it is largely due to his efforts that the amusements are so popular.

fuel investigations and has found that briquettes made of the slack coal from the mines mixed with a little coal tar will burn in a locomotive without smoke and really furnish more steam than ordinary coal. The reason that they have not been more generally used heretofore is that there has not been enough margin of profit in making briquettes. But since they furnish a good smokeless fuel, there is a fair probability that their use will be taken up by the railroads within the limits of large cities and thus a large part of the city smoke nuisance will be done away with.

TOO OFFICIOUS.

Last week's *Milton Standard* says: At this distance it looks as though there was a deputy fish warden named Holland down the line who ought to be fired. The other day a Georgetown man gave Deputy Sheriff Deppen a box of fish to bring up to Sunbury for the sick wife of a friend. The deputy sheriff handed the box over to two young men who were on the train coming up to the county seat. Deputy Fish Warden Holland was also on the train, and nosed about the box and discovered that it contained some sunfish. He immediately arrested the innocent young men and manacled them. Notwithstanding their explanation and that of the deputy sheriff he marched them through the streets of Sunbury, handcuffed, to the office of Squire Carpenter, who as soon as he heard the story, released the boys, who were greatly mortified and justly indignant. The enforcement of the game laws suffers more setbacks from the indiscretions of nincompoops who hold warrens' commissions and are clothed with authority than from those who violate their provisions. This case is a fair sample. Somebody ought to be held responsible for such an outrage.

JAILED FOR ILLEGAL FISHING.

George E. Riley, the Wilkes-Barre fish and game warden, charged with catching 130 trout under legal size, and sentenced to spend 1300 days in jail, must serve his sentence. Riley was arrested several weeks ago by members of the State Constabulary on the charge of having sold to the Merchants' Club, of Wilkes-Barre, 130 trout under the legal size. He was given a hearing before Alderman Pollock, who fined him \$10 for each fish, making a total of \$1300. Riley refused to pay the same, and then the Alderman sentenced him to serve 1300 days in the county jail, one day for each dollar fine. Riley took an appeal from the Alderman's judgment and on this appeal the argument was held on Saturday before Judge Ferris, who dismissed the appeal, affirmed the judgment of the Alderman and directed that Riley must serve the sentence imposed by the Alderman. The Sheriff took charge of Riley and escorted him to jail.

State Teachers' Association Presents a Splendid Program.

The Pennsylvania State Educational Association will hold its annual meeting at Greensburg, July 2, 3 and 4, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of next week. It promises to be a most profitable and enjoyable session. Among those who will take part on the program are Hon. Henry Houck, Harrisburg; Dr. E. T. Jeffers, York; Dr. J. D. Moffat, President Washington and Jefferson College; Miss Olive Jones, Principal of Schools for Chronic Truants and Incurables, New York City; Supt. Eli M. Rapp, Berks county; Gen. James A. Beaver, Bellefonte, Acting President State College; Librarian Geo. H. Lamb, Braddock, and Bishop John H. Vincent, Chautauqua, N. Y. Splendid programs have been arranged for round table conferences by the Department of Child Study, Department of Nature Study, Department of High Schools, Kindergarten Department and Manual Training Department. The music will be a feature of the program. In addition to noted singers from Pittsburg and vicinity, Mlle. Regina Arta, of the Manhattan Opera, New York, will be present the entire session. Mlle. Arta is the artist so often mentioned throughout the State by Hon. Henry Houck in his lectures upon his trip abroad. This meeting should be well attended.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Pennsylvania State Educational Association
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In the same showing you will find a beautiful array of Shirt Waists and Separate Skirts in all the newest styles and best fabrics at moderate prices.

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At \$5.00—Dotted Swiss Suits with different colors in floral designs, Lingerie waists with Dutchess effects, trimmed with German Lace and Insertion.

At \$5.98—Suits of fine Lawn—Lingerie waists, tucked and trimmed with fillet lace, full skirt, with rows of fillet lace insertion.

At \$5.98—A Jumper suit of light blue Batiste—beautifully made and a very stylish suit. Many of the popular suits in all the different colorings are shown from 5 to 5.75.

At \$8.00—Princess Suit of fine white Lawn, beautifully shered and trimmed with cluny lace.

THE WHITE DRESS SKIRTS

Larger variety—better values than ever, in a wide range of prices from \$1.00 to \$4.50. We mention a few:

At \$1.00—Nine gored skirt of Shrunken Muslin, pleated at each seam, panel effect.

At \$1.25—Linen finished shrunken muslin skirt, 11 gored, trimmed with straps of same material.

At \$1.98—Skirt of fine quality, White Lawn tucked at yoke, knee and bottom.

At \$3.00—Skirt of fine Linenette—strap trimming and inverted pleats.

At \$4.50—White skirt of fine all Linen seven gores—pleated.

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