

EARLY REVIVAL PREDICTED

Steel Makers Think Markets Will Improve—Prices Not Cut.

TRADE IS NOT EMBARRASSED

No Large Stocks on Hand to Be Unloaded and Business Is on Safe Basis.

New York.—At a special meeting of pig iron and steel manufacturers of the country, at the offices of the United States Steel Corporation, it was again decided to maintain the present schedule of prices.

The meeting was attended by principal officers of corporations which produce 90 per cent of the nation's output of pig iron and steel, among them being Chairman E. H. Gary and President W. E. Corey, of the United States Steel Corporation, representatives of the Jones & Laughlin Steel Company, Pennsylvania Steel Company, Lackawanna Steel Company, Cambria Steel Company, Bethlehem Steel Company, Republic Iron and Steel Company, Inland Steel Company and Rogers, Brown & Company.

The object of the meeting was the discussion of the advisability of reducing prices, in order to stimulate demand. Reports as to the pig iron industry showed that present production is on the basis of one-half the annual output in the topmost year of the recent high-water mark record, which was 27,000,000 tons.

Activity in Europe.

All pig iron markets were reported quiet, except in Great Britain, where today's prices moved upward under good demands from the continent of Europe.

Many important makers of steel and products at the meeting stated that in most lines of finished products the indications point to an early revival of buying on a moderate scale.

Only a small group at the meeting spoke in favor of a reduction in selling prices.

After a full discussion of market conditions, the meeting decided that as prices were designedly kept down to reasonable rates throughout the long period of unexampled activity improve under domestic requirements, there is no good reason why prices in any channel of the iron and steel industries should be reduced. The sense of the meeting was formally expressed through E. H. Gary, chairman of the United States Steel Corporation.

No Large Stocks on Hand.

Important officers of steel ingot and wire manufacturing companies seen at the close of the meeting expressed the opinion that there is no basis for the rumors that large tonnage of crude, semi-finished steel products are to be dumped on the foreign markets. The largest producer present said:

"We have no large surplus stocks, and are not likely to have. The trade took in sail when the sales came. Consequently, stocks are small and are being absorbed to the extent of production. All our producers who export have built up that trade so as to have a continuous movement of products at prices which assure a fair return to the makers and under safe conditions as to creditors."

WOMAN FASTS FORTY DAYS

Weight Drops from 123 to 105, but With No Ill Effects.

Long Beach, Cal.—Miss Ertza Priscilla Grove, a Chicago school teacher, completed her 40th day of fasting and acceded to the request of her sister to partake of nourishment.

In the effort to equal the record of Dr. S. H. Tanner, who fasted 40 days in the 80s, Miss Grove's weight was reduced from 123 to 103 pounds, but she declares that she felt no ill effects from her experience, and that she could have continued fasting for a much longer period.

RICH STRIKE IN COLOMBIA

Two Men Reach New York With Tales of Fabulous Gold.

New York.—Claiming to have panned out \$2,900 in gold dust in two months in Colombia, Adam Umholt of Washington arrived here on the steamship Yenita from Santa Maria. With him was C. W. Bruce, who had \$300 in dust as the result of 10 days labor there, he asserted.

Both men were enthusiastic over the field for mining they had visited and said they expected to return and obtain more of the precious metal. They had penetrated far into the interior with only such supplies as they were able to carry on the backs of mules.

Bad roads make the conveying of machinery to the field impossible, the returned miners say. Both men confidently assert their belief that Colombia bids fair to become a second California, so far as gold production is concerned.

Representative Charles E. Littlefield of Maine, resigned his seat in congress in order to resume the practice of law.

WANT ROOSEVELT VISIT

Invitation Resolved Introduced in Australian Senate.

Melbourne, Australia.—The suggestion was mooted in the Australian senate and greeted with much enthusiasm that the federal government invite President Roosevelt to come to Australia as the guest of the Commonwealth during the visit next winter in Australian water of the American battleship fleet.

ORDERS COMING IN.

Activities of Steel Corporation Show Slight Increase—Ten Per Cent Gain Shown.

The "Iron Trade Review" says: The awarding of contracts by the National government and municipalities and the buying of wire tin plate and other products offered by interests more or less directly connected with the farmers, continues to be the main support of the market, but the decision of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad to begin upon the building of 2,500 steel cars and 70 locomotives at its Milwaukee shops, is an encouraging indication of increased railroad activity.

In some finished lines, especially structural material and malleable castings there is a rather surprising number of small orders, and in many cases prompt delivery is insisted upon. The activities of the steel corporation show a slight increase and some of the large independent interests report orders for the first half of March amounting to fully 10 per cent more than for the first half of February. The steel corporation is continuing the new construction ordered last year and other improvements are being approved but appropriations for the whole year have not yet been considered.

RELIEF FOR LABOR.

Prospects That Congress Will Pass a New Measure.

Washington.—Speaker Cannon and Vice President Fairbanks announced their belief that the present congress will pass an employers' liability act which will meet and overcome the unconstitutionality of the present law pointed out by the supreme court of the United States in a recent decision.

These statements were made unreservedly by Speaker Cannon, and guardedly by the Vice President to a delegation, led by Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, from 87 national and international trade and labor organizations and unions of farmers assembled in a national conference in this city. The delegation called on the speaker to lay before the house of representatives, through him, a memorial entitled, "Labor's protest to congress."

RATES MUST BE SAME

Inter-State Commerce Commission Decision Affects Operators.

Washington, D. C.—Commissioner Lane handed down a decision of the Inter-State Commerce Commission of particular interest to Virginia and West Virginia coal operators, the case being that of the Red Raven Ash Coal Company and others against the Norfolk & Western Railway.

The commission held that the complainants operating in the Clinch Valley are entitled to the same rates on coal in car loads eastbound as charged from the Pocahontas and Tag river coal fields in West Virginia, the distances to the seaboard being substantially the same, but the commission held that no money damages should be allowed complainants on shipments.

HELD UP BY BANDITS

Robbers Get Away With \$47,000 and Victim's Rig.

Reno, Nev.—Three bandits, heavily armed, overcame Edward Hoffman and a companion on a road two miles from Rawhide, threw them to the ground and made off in their victim's two-horse rig, taking gold and bank notes amounting to about \$47,000.

The money was consigned to the Coalition Mining Company at Rawhide.

WAR ON LOUISIANA RACING

Legislature Will Be Petitioned to Abolish Betting at Tracks.

New Orleans.—New Orleans newspapers announced the beginning of a campaign to abolish horse racing in Louisiana.

The names of many well known men were presented as signers of a petition for presentation to the legislature, which meets in May, asking the abolishment of betting at Louisiana tracks.

DEATH OF BISHOP FOWLER.

New York.—Rev. Charles H. Fowler, bishop of the Methodist Episcopal church, died at his home here. His death was due to heart failure resulting from a complication of diseases. He had been in poor health for two years, but during nearly all that time he took a more or less active part in the affairs of the church.

CAPITAL NOTES.

A house bill increasing the pay of persons engaged in the life-saving service of the United States was passed by the senate with an amendment giving to the dependent mother the same pension allowances as the bill gives to a widow.

By a vote of 148 to 115 the house laid on the table a resolution calling upon the President to supply the information on corporations gathered by the bureau of corporations.

The house committee on interstate and foreign commerce heard arguments by representatives of various commercial organizations in favor of the Maynard bill providing for a uniform bill of lading.

Pension appropriation bill, which provision abolishing all but one pension agency, was passed by house.

Resolution calling on President to inform house by what authority of law he exercised power in Panama was adopted.

Private Banker Indicted.

Chicago.—Five indictments against A. C. Tisdelle, private banker, whose bank at 94 La Salle street, was declared insolvent several months ago, were returned by a grand jury here.

ORCHARD HEARS SENTENCE

Death Penalty, But Judge Favors Imprisonment.

JUDGE THINKS HE TOLD TRUTH

Says He Believes All the Condemned Man Said and Recommends Commutation.

Caldwell, Ida.—Stating that he believed that Harry Orchard, in his testimony in the trials of William D. Haywood and George Pettibone for the murder of ex-Governor Frank Steunenberg, told the exact truth, attempting to conceal nothing, Judge Fremont Wood, in the district court, sentenced Orchard to be hanged on May 15 next. He also, in a long address, recommended that the state board of pardons commute Orchard's sentence of death to imprisonment in the state penitentiary.

The sentence of death with the plea of guilty entered by Orchard Tuesday of last week, when arraigned, Judge Wood presided at both the Haywood and Pettibone trials.

In sentencing Orchard and recommending the commutation of his sentence, Judge Wood reviewed the case from the time of the killing of Frank Steunenberg to the present.

Orchard asked permission to speak and it was granted. He thanked the court for the review of the case given and for the kindly remarks in regard to him. He repeated that he had told the whole truth and that no promise of immunity or mercy had ever been made to him.

Before he had concluded tears were streaming from his eyes and he all but broke down as he again, in broken voice, thanked Judge Wood for his recommendation to the board of pardons.

After the court proceedings, Orchard was taken back to Boise and placed in the penitentiary. The board of pardons meets on April 1.

SHIP SUBSIDY BILL

More Liberal Allowances Made Than in Measures of Preceding Years.

Washington.—The ship subsidy bill was passed by the senate. It pays to 16-knot vessels plying between this country and South America, the Philippines, Japan, China and Australia, \$4 per mile, the amount awarded by the act of 1891 to vessels of 20 knots only.

The bill was amended in the senate so that 12-knot vessels will receive \$2 per mile, which is the allowance under existing law to 16-knot vessels. Amendments were also adopted providing that if two or more ports to South America under the provisions of the bill one line shall stop at two ports south of Cape Charles, and stipulating that no more shall be paid for subsidies than is received from ship service by the government.

\$30,000,000 SUIT DISMISSED

Sugar Company Has 30 Days to Try Against Trust.

New York.—Judge Holt in the United States circuit court dismissed the suit for \$30,000,000 damages brought by the Pennsylvania Sugar Refining Company against the American Sugar Refining Company for alleged violation of the Sherman anti-trust act.

Judge Holt granted leave to the Pennsylvania Company to amend its complaint within 30 days.

FLEET WILL VISIT JAPAN.

Washington.—The American battleship fleet is to visit Japan. The desire of the emperor of the "Big Kingdom" to play host to the "Big Sixteen" was laid before Secretary Root by Baron Takahira, the Japanese ambassador. The invitation, which was couched in most cordial terms, was made the subject of extended consideration by President Roosevelt and his entire cabinet today. Secretary Root was directed to accept the invitation and the acceptance was laid before the Japanese ambassador.

FARMERS DRIVEN OUT.

Fearing to Raise Tobacco and Unable to Exist Otherwise, Many Move Away.

Lexington, Ky.—Because of warning letters and visits from night riders, many farmers in nearly all of the 42 counties in the white burley tobacco region are destroying their tobacco beds; and at the present time fewer than one-third the normal number have been started. In many counties huge signs have been erected on buildings and in high places nearby, displaying the intention of the farmer not to raise a crop this season.

Realizing the difficulty of making a living for the families in case the decision to raise no tobacco is adhered to, many tenant farmers are preparing to move to other States, while many farm owners have placed their property on the market with the avowed purpose of leaving Kentucky.

Interstate commerce commission decided it had no jurisdiction over ocean-going commerce.

William J. Byran in a speech at Chicago, declared that Secretary of War Taft favors corporations against the people because he once offered to give a railway in the Philippines a perpetual franchise.

Mme. Anna Gould, who divorced her husband, the Count Boni de Castellane, said on arriving in New York for a visit with her relatives, that she had had plenty of married life and was not engaged to the count's cousin.

GERMANS KILL HOTTENTOTS

Expedition Having Enormous Guns and 700 Camels in Fierce Fight.

Berlin.—The government publishes a cablegram from South Africa, reporting a battle between the German expeditionary force and a body of Hottentots in the Kalahira desert. The German troops had been sent out to find Simon Koppers, the last of the Hottentot chiefs, who is still hostile.

The engagement was a very severe one. The enemy lost 58 killed. Seven men and several women were captured, but Koppers escaped.

The German losses also were heavy. Captain von Erckert, commander of the expeditionary force, Lieutenant Ebinger and 12 privates being killed, and 17 wounded, of whom nine were seriously hurt.

The German force left Cochos on March 6, 430 strong, with enormous guns and 700 camels. They made forced marches into the waterless desert for four days before stopping long enough to cook a fresh supply of food. The only water found was a dirty pool, which was insufficient to quench the thirst of the camels.

Captain Erckert finally located the Hottentots marching. He made the attack next morning at daylight and soon there was fierce fighting all along the line. The German commander fell in the first onslaught, and the second officer in command took charge of the expeditionary force, which drove the Hottentots from one position to another, until finally they broke and fled in all directions.

Chief Kopper's power has been badly weakened by this defeat, but it will be necessary for the Germans to continue a vigilant watch over the approaches to the desert.

NEGROES MAY RE-ENLIST

President Is Said to Have Approved Measure to This Effect in House.

Washington.—With the approval of President Roosevelt, Senator Warner of Missouri, introduced a bill intended to permit the re-enlistment in the army of former members of the Twenty-first infantry, who were discharged without honor by the President in or were engaged in the conspiracy of silence, with reference to the shooting affray at Brownsville, Tex., in August, 1906.

The bill authorizes the President to permit the re-enlistment of such of the negro ex-soldiers as can establish to the President's satisfaction that they were not engaged in and had no guilty knowledge of the affray.

One year from the date of the approval of the act is given for the soldiers to establish their innocence.

Men permitted to re-enlist will get pay and allowances from the time of their discharge "without honor," in November, 1906.

Senator Foraker had introduced a bill previously to provide for the restoration of the discharged men to the army. It differs from the administration bill in permitting the negro soldiers to re-enlist upon making oath that they were not involved in the affray.

ORDERS FOR 136 LOCOMOTIVES.

New York Central Also Contracts for 24,000 Tons of Rails.

New York.—Orders for 136 new locomotives and 24,000 tons of steel rails have just been placed by the New York Central Railroad Company.

The order for locomotives is one of the largest which has been received by the builders since unsettled business conditions began.

The new equipment is for the company's lines east of Buffalo. The money for the purchase is provided for in the recent issue of \$30,000,000 equipment trust notes.

BANK ROBBERS GET \$900.

Muskogee, Okla.—Two robbers, believed to be members of the gang that held up the Tyro (Kan.) bank last week, walked into the Davis bank at Hoffman, Okla., 30 miles southwest of here, covered the bank officials with pistols and, gathering up \$900 in currency, mounted their horses, which were standing outside, and escaped.

WASHINGTON HAS \$500,000 FIRE.

Washington.—Elsinger brothers' lumber yard, the grandstand of the Washington American league baseball club and about a score of residences in the vicinity of Seventh and U streets, Northwest, have been destroyed by a fire, which broke out about midnight. The flames are not yet under control. The loss already approximates half a million dollars.

SWINDLER IS SENTENCED.

Philadelphia.—Frank C. Marrin, alias Franklin Stone, who was convicted of using the mails to defraud in connection with the Storey Cotton Company, of this city, was sentenced by Judge Holland in the United States court to four years' imprisonment and to a fine of \$5,000. He was later released in \$10,000 bail pending an appeal.

EQUIPMENT FOR NAVAL STATION.

Washington.—The Standard Engineering Corporation of Philadelphia, was the lowest bidder, at \$127,667, for furnishing the power plant equipment for the Great Lakes naval station, bids for which were opened at the navy department.

FABULOUS GOLD FIND

American Whalers Reported to Have Struck Bonanza.

Winnipeg.—A special from Dawson City says the Royal Northwest mounted police expedition to Fort McPherson has returned, bringing word of a fabulously rich gold find 60 miles east of Herschell Island. American whalers are the lucky men, together with the wrecked crew of the Duchess of Bedford, which was taken North by Captain Miklesen.

CANNON SCARES HAITIANS

Their Capital Thrown Into Panic When British Guns Are Fired.

SITUATION IS STILL TENSE

London Advises Say Outbreak Was Anti-Foreign—Very Grave, Says Washington.

Port au Prince, Haiti.—The British cruiser indefatigable and the German cruiser Bremen have arrived here under orders from their governments to give full protection to any foreign residents in Port au Prince in case their lives or interests are threatened.

At present the city is quiet, but there is an underlying current of anxiety, as shown by the fact that a panic was caused by the booming of a heavy gun on the British cruiser when she came to anchor. The indefatigable announced her arrival by three cannon shots and the detonations terrorized the people.

Officers and soldiers alike rushed precipitately to their posts, women and children ran hither and thither in seeming despair, crying hysterically, and it was some little time before they could be calmed.

SURPRISED THE BRITISHER.

General Deroncourt, chief of the harbor force, said the commander of the indefatigable, after he had learned of the panic he had caused, showed surprise and begged the General to express to President Alexis his regrets.

Positive denial is made by Haitian officials of the reports that other executions have taken place than those on Sunday morning, when 10 or 12 conspirators found, according to the government's statement, with arms and ammunition for revolutionary purposes in their possession, were shot to death.

Under a decision taken by the Council of Ministers, the government today authorized the sending on board the warships and out of the country the authors of the last insurrection, who have taken refuge at the French, German and Spanish consulates at Gonaives. The government reserves for itself the right to prosecute in court any persons who hereafter are implicated in uprisings, conditional on foreign representatives agreeing not to give asylum in their respective consulates in case of further revolutionary movements being attempted.

ANTI-FOREIGN OUTBREAK.

London.—A brief dispatch was received at the Foreign Office from the English Consul General at Port au Prince, saying the outbreak in Haiti was undoubtedly anti-foreign. This is all the information that has reached the British government officially since the first brief message announcing the summary executions and saying a massacre of Europeans was feared.

EXPLOSION KILLS THREE.

Windows Fourteen Miles Away Are Shattered by Force of the Explosion.

Linton, Ind.—Three workmen were killed and six injured, one fatally, by an explosion in the press mill of the United States Powder Company at Coalmont, 14 miles from here.

The Dead-Crepe Simmons, George Gorby, St. Lon Smith. Fatally injured, Charles Myers.

Nothing is known as to the cause of the explosion. The men had been at work but a short time when the explosion came.

The force of the explosion was heard and felt for miles. All windows in Coalmont were destroyed and several buildings were damaged.

Platen windows in Linton were broken. Physicians went to Coalmont from surrounding towns as soon as the explosion was heard and rendered what assistance was possible.

ATEST ADDITION TO NAVY.

The new battleship New Hampshire with Captain Cameron McK. Winslow in command, was placed in commission at the League Island navy yard with the usual ceremonies. The warship will be ready for service in about a month.

STILL TRUST IN GOD.

Washington, D. C.—The motto, "In God We Trust," was voted back on the coins, but five Representatives, Barthold and Kuestermann, Republicans, and Gordon, Cooper and Slay, Democrats, voted "no." Representative Longworth simply voted present, thus avoiding flouting either his father-in-law or religious sentiment.

OLD WAR VESSEL BURNED.

Washington.—The old Monongahela sloop of war, has gone at last, after many hairbreadth escapes and extraordinary experiences. She was burned to the water's edge on the evening of St. Patrick's day at Guantanamo, Cuba, where the United States government has a naval station.

REDUCTION AFFECTS 1,800.

Dover, N. H.—The 1,800 employees of the cotton factories of the Cocheco Manufacturing Company were notified that the mills would be closed for two days and that unless business conditions immediately improve a four day's a week schedule would be followed indefinitely.

LIBERIA APPEALS FOR HELP.

Washington.—The government of the little African republic of Liberia has appealed to America to protect her territorial integrity against France. The state department has been informed that a delegation is now on its way from Monrovia to Washington to make a personal appeal to the President and Secretary Root to restrain the French from forcibly taking possession of a large part of the country lying on the border between Liberia and French West Africa.

FORTIFICATIONS BILL CUT

Fears Entertained That Big Expenditure Now Might Be Misinterpreted.

Washington.—The fortifications bill, carrying a total appropriation of \$3,210,611, instead of the \$33,443,945 asked for by the War Department, was reported to the House Committee on Appropriations by Chairman Smith, of the sub-committee on fortifications.

The sub-committee felt, aside from other considerations, that to recommend an appropriation of \$33,000,000 for fortifications at this time would be an action which might be very reasonably construed by Japan as an official declaration that the United States was preparing for a war with that nation. The amount recommended by the committee is larger than any which has been annually appropriated since the Spanish-American War.

TO GUARANTEE DEPOSITS.

Bill Introduced by Bates Provides for Insurance Fund.

Washington.—Representative Bates introduced a bill to amend the national banking act by the creation of what is to be known as "the national bank deposit insurance fund." The bill directs the controller of the currency to assess every national bank annually according to its capital. These assessments shall continue until a fund of \$5,000,000 is raised, which fund shall be held by the Treasurer of the United States as a guaranty to depositors in national banks.

Mr. Bates also introduced a bill providing that when an enlisted man in the United States navy shall have served 25 years, he shall, upon making application to the President, be placed on the retired list, with 75 per cent of the pay, cash rewards, benefits and allowances he may then be in receipt of.

SOLDIERS KILL CUBANS

Alleged Deserters Claim Deed Was Done in Self-Defense.

Havana.—An investigation into the charges of homicide against three American soldiers, who were arrested after their return from a boat trip, has resulted in the finding of three service revolvers and uniforms buried near the spot where the boat was abandoned by the soldiers. The men are also charged with attempt to desert.

They obtained the services of two Cubans to aid them in navigating their boat, and afterward the boat was found on the coast. The Cubans, having disappeared, the soldiers on returning to the garrison, said they killed the Cubans in self-defense.

BILLS UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

Judiciary Sub-Committee's View of Prohibition Measures.

Washington.—By the vote of 3 to 2 the sub-committee of the Senate Committee on the judiciary declared unconstitutional all of the bills intended to remove federal barriers against State exercising control of their police powers for the regulation of the liquor traffic.

LOCAL OPTION DEFEATED IN JERSEY.

Trenton, N. J.—By the vote of 44 to 15, the New Jersey house of assembly defeated the Anti-Saloon league's local option bill. Objection was made to the ward option feature, to its grouping, as well as conflict with the clauses of municipal and county option. The alleged methods of the Anti-Saloon league, intimidation and sending letters threatening the assemblymen with political defeat, were condemned. Strenuous efforts were made by the Anti-Saloon league, through church influence, to pass the bill, as a similar proposition went down to defeat last year.

CZAR SPARES STOESSER'S LIFE.

St. Petersburg.—The Emperor confirmed the death sentence passed upon Lieutenant General Stoesser, and also the court's recommendation for commutation of the sentence to ten years' imprisonment in a fortress. The former commander of Port Arthur ineffectually petitioned for a full pardon.

HUMMEL COMPLETES SENTENCE.

New York.—Abraham H. Hummel, who was sentenced to serve a year in the penitentiary for conspiracy in connection with the Dodge-Morse divorce case, was released from prison. His term was reduced to about 10 months by the allowance made for good behavior.

CURRENT NEWS EVENTS.

Washington.—Public Printer Charles S. Stillings-to-day tendered his resignation to the President and it has been accepted.

Admiral Evans reported to be alarmingly ill; insisted upon being allowed to retire as soon as he reaches San Francisco, and President has consented; great fleet reached Magdalena Bay ahead of its schedule.

MENTAL HEALER ARRESTED.

Kalamazoo, Mich.—Mrs. Mabel Woodham Needley, whose two-year-old son Walter died last December from pneumonia, while under treatment by two mental healers, was arrested and charged with manslaughter.

\$60,000,000 LEFT TO FAMILY.

South Bend, Ind.—The will of James Oliver, the richest man in Indiana, was filed for probate. He left his fortune of \$60,000,000 to his family, the bulk of it to Joseph D. Oliver, his son.

MILES OF IDLE CARS.

Pennsylvania Railroad officials say the blockade of idle cars all along the line is unprecedented in the history of the road. Ten miles of empty coal and coke cars are stored between New Florence and Lockport.