

Washington News

The senate committee on inter-oceanic canals had a hearing on the Flint-McLachlan bill providing for the establishment of a government-owned steamship line on the Pacific coast and extending to Panama. Great interest was taken in the representations of Pacific coast men that the Pacific Mail Steamship company maintained its Panama line almost solely in the interest of the trans-continental rail routes. Several of

the representatives alleged that the Pacific Mail Steamship company was almost wholly owned by the Southern Pacific railway, and that its Panama line was maintained chiefly for the purpose of discouraging business in that direction and diverting it eastward over continental routes. The vessels of the Pacific Mail company were condemned sweepingly as antiquated and the service poor. At the afternoon session the committee heard Richard R. Rogers, general counsel of the Panama Railway company, in defense of the action of Secretary of War Dickinson in acceding to the demands of the Pacific Mail Steamship company for a larger slice of the joint rate made on through business. For many years the Pacific Mail company received 50 per cent of this joint rate, but is now getting 70 per cent. Mr. Rogers said the company threatened to sever its relations with the railway unless the increase was granted. He declared that it would have meant a loss to the railway company of at least a million dollars a year. As no other company was willing to undertake the operation of ships to the Isthmus, he said, it was necessary to comply with the Pacific company's demands.

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Michigan Farmer.....	1.00	1.60
National Farmer & Stock Grower.....	.50	1.25
National Monthly.....	1.00	1.75
Nat'l Stockman & Farmer.....	1.00	1.90
News-Times.....	1.00	1.85
National Fruit Grower.....	.50	1.25
Ohio Farmer.....	1.00	1.60
Outing.....	3.00	3.35
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Pacific Monthly.....	1.50	1.75
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Homestead regulations are described by an Associated Press dispatch in this way: "Regulations extending to May 15, the time for homesteaders to establish residence on lands in several western states, were promulgated today by the interior department, in accordance with an act recently passed by congress. The extension refers to all entries, as well as soldiers' declaratory statements made in North Dakota, South Dakota, Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming and New Mexico, after June 1, 1909. If any payments are required, as in cases where the lands were formerly within Indian reservations, the act operates to extend the date when payment becomes due until the entry is made. A leave of absence of three months from January 28 last is permitted by these homestead entrymen, but those who avail themselves of this privilege can not claim residence during their absence from their claims, and the period of residence under either commutation of five-year proofs is not shortened by the act."

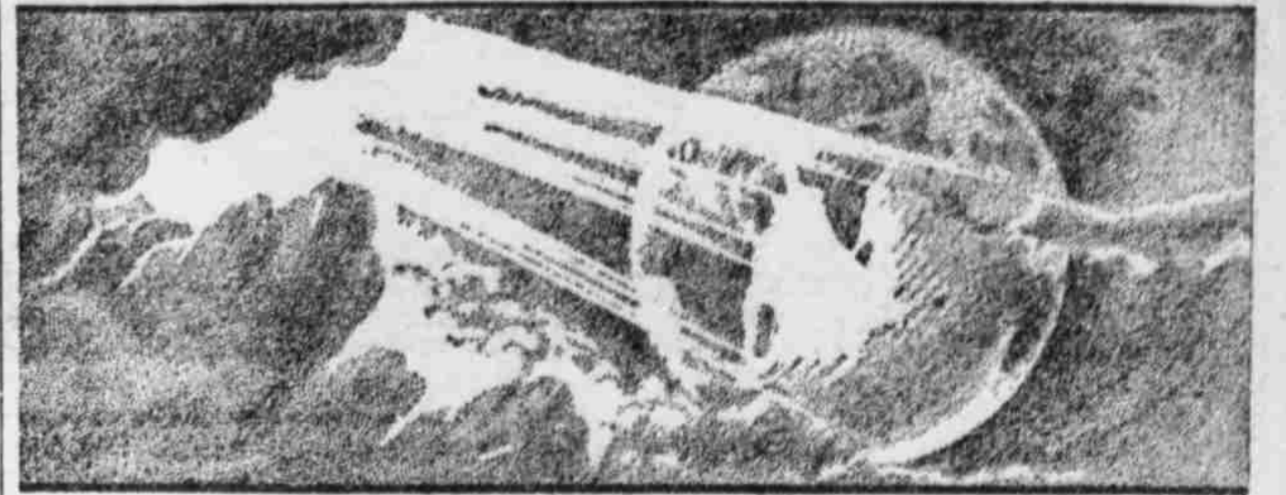
The abolishment of seventeen out of eighteen pension agencies in the country is recommended to the house by the appropriations committee in the report on the pension bill. The only agency will be located at Washington. The seventeen agencies thus cut off are located in Augusta, Me.; Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Columbus, O.; Concord, N. H.; Des Moines, Ia.; Detroit, Indianapolis, Knoxville, Louisville, Milwaukee, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, San Francisco and Topeka, Kan.

The military committee reported to the house the military academy bill which carries an appropriation of \$1,876,332.

The president sent to the senate the following nomination: Second secretary of the embassy at London, England, Fred Morris Bearing of Missouri.

Justice Wright of the supreme court of the District of Columbia issued summons to senators and representatives comprising the joint committee of six, which made a paper contract award. A paper com-
(Continued on Page 15)

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