

# WASHINGTON GOSSIP

Gov. Magoon is carrying out President Roosevelt's policy in Cuba, but he is credited by a New York newspaper with the opinion that ultimately the United States will be compelled to restore and maintain order in Cuba or to suspend the Monroe doctrine while European powers undertake the job. In accordance with this view a vigorous movement is already under way for the establishment of an American protectorate for the island, patterned after that maintained by England in Egypt. Outlines of the plan have been drawn and at least one prominent paper in Havana advocates its adoption. There is apparently little hope that the new republic will be stable, but any effort to entangle the United States more than the present position does will be opposed by the many who believe that financial speculation by American and Cuban capitalists is responsible for much of the agitation and apprehension.

Senator Daniel has introduced a bill establishing a fund, the income from which is to be used for promoting a better understanding between employers and employees, and thus securing industrial peace. The trustees are to be the chief justice of the United States, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, a representative of capital, a representative of labor and two others to be nominated by the President. The Nobel prize recently awarded to President Roosevelt will form the nucleus of the fund.

Commissioner Leupp advocates less government supervision and more independence for the various tribes as a change calculated to improve the condition of the Indians. To this end he suggests the organization of those tribes having money and lands into joint-stock companies for the administration of their common estate. He suggests that the Secretary of the Interior be named as the perpetual treasurer and transfer agent for the several corporations.

Tullio Larrinaga, commissioner from Porto Rico to Washington, declared in a recent statement that whatever the island is today is not due to any helping hand on the part of the American Congress; what it is it owes to the industry of the people. He says that Porto Rico cannot be made an American community of the Anglo-Saxon type for centuries to come, and the sooner that is realized the better for all concerned.

A statement issued by Secretary of the Navy Metcalf, dealing with the construction of the battleships Connecticut and Louisiana, the former by the government navy yard at Brooklyn, and the latter by the Newport News Shipbuilding Company, shows that the government-built ship cost \$350,425 more than the private-built one. The cost of the Connecticut was \$6,340,247, and of the Louisiana \$5,980,822.

After some debate in the United States Senate a few days ago it was decided by unanimous vote that the term "Civil War" and not "War of the Rebellion" should be used in Senate documents. Senator Carmack offered the motion to change the name of the service pension bill to agree with the term, afterward accepted, and after several Democratic Senators had spoken, the motion was adopted.

In a letter, the president has approved the policy of Secretary of the Interior Hitchcock relative to the withdrawal of coal, oil and gas lands in the Indian Territory to prevent their falling into the hands of certain monopolistic corporations. This comes in response to the recent talk of certain Senators, who proposed to impeach Secretary Hitchcock.

In a letter to Secretary Metcalf, the President, referring to the report of Admiral Evans in commendation of the course of Admiral Davis at Kingston, expresses hearty approval of all that Davis did during the earthquake panic at the Jamaican capital, saying that he "upheld the best traditions of our navy in thus rendering distinguished services to humanity."

The House Judiciary Committee reported unanimously that Congress has no jurisdiction over woman and child labor. It is found that the subject is governed by either the commerce or police clauses of the Constitution or the police power of the State, each of which acts as a limitation to the other.

By agreement between the House Postoffice Committee and the attorneys for the railroads, the postal appropriations for transporting the mails on the railroads will be based on a compensation of \$19 per ton per mile, instead of \$21.37, as last year. This will result in a total reduction of about \$4,000,000.

**Carnegie's University Next.**  
Educational papers credit the report that Andrew Carnegie and his colossal fortune are behind the announced incorporation of the Andrew Carnegie university at Chicago, which is to be the site of the new institution. The articles state the object to be to establish a university for the teaching of medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, science and art, law, theology and all kindred branches of learning, and that it shall not be conducted for profit. The report of the Carnegie fund for the advancement of teaching shows that already 289 institutions have applied for a share of the proceeds, and that of these fifty-two have been placed on the accepted list, having met the conditions in regard to non-denominationalism and academic standards. In the accepted institutions forty-five professors have received more than \$20,000, and the widows of some professors have been assisted. One-half the accepted colleges are in New England, New York and Pennsylvania, and, with one exception, the entire list lies in the northern belt of States.

## THE COLLISION ON LONG ISLAND SOUND.



### PLAN OF THAW DEFENSE.

Content that Defendant Was Temporarily Irresponsible.

Harry K. Thaw is fighting against the plea of insanity his attorneys are trying to establish with the aid of such carefully prepared expert testimony. Thaw fears that District Attorney Jerome is planning to send him to the madhouse in the event of his acquittal, and this fact makes him fear the plea his lawyers have set up. They are attempting to prove that he was insane at the time of the murder of Stanford White, June 25, 1906, but that he has been constantly improving since then, and is now entirely sane. Thaw fears that his attorneys are putting too much emphasis on this feature of the case and believes that a stronger attempt should be made to impress the jury with the self-defense plea, and to win its sympathy by unspoken appeals to the unwritten law.

The trial was brought to a sudden halt Thursday by the death of Mrs. Joseph B. Bolton, wife of juror No. 11. Mrs. Bolton had been suffering from double pneumonia, and its fatal termination caused alarm among those directly interested in the Thaw case.

The testimony of Dr. Evans in the defense. The doctor, who is not an imputed expert, but the head of a large insane asylum and a physician of many years' experience in mental diseases, testified that on the occasion of his first three visits to Thaw in jail, Thaw was undoubtedly insane. He was suffering the after-effects of a "mental explosion." During the period covering the later visits of the physician Thaw showed a steady improvement, so that it would appear that at present he is nearly, if not quite, sane. In other words, he defendant was not responsible for his deed at the time it was committed, and, therefore, should not be punished. On the other hand, he is not

### HARRY THAW GREETES HIS MOTHER.



now insane, and, therefore, should not be committed to an asylum.

The rest of the testimony since the first day has been an attempt to corroborate the opinion of the expert that Thaw was insane and to show the existence of a condition of affairs adequate enough to drive to temporary insanity a man who had a predisposition to it. When insanity is due to the effect of bone pressure on the brain an operation upon the skull often causes the recovery of the patient. In this case it is alleged that the tritane was not a piece of bone but the man White. With the removal of White, in this case not by the hand of a surgeon but by the patent himself, it is assumed that Thaw's brain ceased to be irritated and returned to its normal condition.

It remains to be seen whether the district attorney can discredit this medical witness as thoroughly as he did the first one, or can show in other ways the responsibility of the slayer. It remains also to be seen whether the jury will approve this return to the plea of temporary insanity, which has been in discredit for some years because badly overworked.

Unless something spectacular has been reserved the nature of the defense is now clear. The character of the counter testimony for the prosecution and the cross examination of the witnesses for the defense will try severely the professional skill of Mr. Jerome. The public is interested in the battle of able lawyers over a human life such as is being waged.



MAP SHOWING SCENE OF THE DISASTER.

### CAPTAIN WENT FIRST.

Master of Ill-Fated Steamer Larchmont Accused of Cowardice.

A new element was injected into the horror attending the loss of the steamer Larchmont in Block Island sound through a collision with the schooner Harry Knowlton, when Captain McVey of the steamer admitted that his lifeboat was one of the first, if not the first, to leave the sinking ship.

This statement was made in reply to charges by Fred Hiersgell, an 18-year-old lad of Brooklyn, one of the survivors, that the passengers were left to shift for themselves; that the ship's crew crowded the boats without attempting to provide for the passengers, and that Captain McVey was the first to desert the ship. The statement of young Hiersgell caused a sensation. In view of the fact that ten of the nineteen survivors were employees on the ship, or, in other words, that while approximately 20 per cent of the vessel's crew was saved, only 8 per cent of the passengers survived.

Captain McVey explained that while his boat may have been the first in the water it was because he had a good crew and that he remained by his ship until she went down. At least 157 persons were known to be on the steamer, and there is every indication that the number was nearer 200. Until the hull

### RAISE FREIGHT RATES.

Roads All Over Country Preparing to Make Increases.

Railroads of the entire country are preparing to make general increases in freight rates which will bring them several hundred millions added revenue annually. In Chicago conferences have been held between the highest traffic men of both Eastern and Western roads, with a view to eliminating hundreds of rates which are known as "commodity rates" and to compel shippers to submit to the classification rates, which are substantially higher. The preliminary work is being done by committees representing both sections of the country, and the exact magnitude of the increases and of the general move for more revenue will not be known until these committees make their report, which may not come before June.

The excuse put forward for a general increase in rates is the alleged alarm felt in Wall street and among the stockholders and directors of all railroads over the increasing difficulty in obtaining money with which to make needed improvements, built extensions and provide equipment and facilities for carrying the traffic of the country. It was stated that more than \$1,800,000,000 had been appropriated by the railroads for these purposes, but that it was impossible to float the securities in any of the money markets of the world.

Accordingly the railway presidents and the men who control the transportation facilities have come to the conclusion that the only way to raise the necessary money is to join the procession and increase the price of what they have to sell, which is transportation.

### SAVE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

President in Message Makes Plea for Western Fuel.

President Roosevelt Wednesday sent to Congress a long message calling attention to the "urgent need of legislation affecting the different phases of the public land situation in the United States." The President advocates the conservation of coal and other fuel resources on lands still belonging to the government, saying that henceforth the nation should retain its title to its fuel resources; urges government control of the Western public land pastures, with a system of small grazing fees, etc., and asks for an appropriation of \$500,000, immediately available, in addition to present estimates, to be used in detecting and preventing land frauds. He contends for a system of government leasing of mineral lands and for treating these fuel lands as public utilities.

President Roosevelt points out that it would have been better if some eastern coal lands had been left under government control, and suggests provision in the West "against recurrence of the conditions we deplore in the East." Citing 2,300 cases of public land entries in four districts mentioned, the President says non-compliance with the law was found in more than half of them, and deliberate fraud in many cases.

The President first refers to his previous messages to Congress on the subject, and again calls attention to the importance of legislation which would provide for title to and development of the surface land distinct from the right to underlying mineral fuels under a leasing system on conditions which would inure to the benefit of the public.

**The Helion Filament Lamp.**  
Prof. H. C. Parker of the physics department of Columbia and Walter G. Clark, an electrical engineer, have announced the success of their experiments to find a better medium than carbon for electric lamps. They say they have a substance which they have named helion, composed largely of silicon, but containing some other ingredients not mentioned. The mixture is deposited from gas on a thread of carbon. To prove its superiority they turned an electric current into two bulbs attached to the same wire. One was the ordinary 16 candle-power carbon filament and the other of the same size, but supplied with the helion filament. A slight flow of electricity that made the carbon lamp appear as a dull red wire produced, in the helion bulb, a light that you could read by. As the current was increased the old light changed from red to yellow and increased in brilliancy until it reached 16 candle-power, while the helion light went to 40 candle-power. The latter would stand much more overloading than the former, and is expected to last twice as long, besides operating with much less current. Helion is not a metal, and can be manufactured in unlimited quantities, but is more expensive to make than carbon filaments at present.

**National Capital Notes.**  
The House committee on labor has made a favorable report on the Bartholdt bill creating a board of trustees to accept and administer the Nobel prize of nearly \$10,000,000.  
Representative Bartholdt introduced an omnibus public building bill which provides that hereafter the Secretary of the Treasury shall construct public buildings under his control in such a manner that quarters shall be available in them for all branches of the government service located in the same city.

Senator McCreary has announced his purpose of offering the Philippine tariff reduction bill as an amendment to the Philippine agricultural bank bill, which will be taken up in the Senate soon.

President Roosevelt received the committee of the National Live Stock Association and the National Wool Growers' Association on the proposition favoring government control of the ranges.  
Representative Garrett of Tennessee introduced a bill prohibiting railroads from requiring employees to work more than eight hours in twenty-four excepting in emergencies, when the time may be extended to twelve hours.

## WORK OF CONGRESS

The Senate Wednesday passed the bill giving the government the right to appeal to the Supreme Court for a construction of the constitutionality of any law involved in a criminal suit. The District of Columbia appropriation bill, carrying nearly \$11,000,000, was passed. The bill establishing an agricultural bank in the Philippines was taken up, and the Philippine tariff bill, which passed the House at the last session, was introduced as an amendment by Senator McCreary. No action resulted on either the bill or the amendment. The conference report on the immigration bill was received and read, but action was deferred. A message from President Roosevelt urging consideration of legislation affecting the public lands was received and read. The first night session of the Senate during the present session was held to consider private pension bills.

An attempt in the Senate Thursday to force action on the conference report on the immigration bill, carrying an amendment designed to settle the Japanese controversy, resulted in a filibustering movement headed by Senators Bacon and Tillman. A truce was finally declared until Friday. The agricultural appropriation bill gave rise to considerable discussion on the proposed increase in the salary of the chief of the forestry bureau. No action was taken. Senator Knox made an address in defense of the right of Senator Smoot to his seat. The naval appropriation bill occupied the entire time of the House, and it was almost completed. The single remaining section is that increasing the naval establishment.

An agreement to vote the next day on the conference report on the immigration bill, which includes the provision intended to settle the California-Japanese question, was reached in the Senate after an entire day of discussion Friday. The naval appropriation bill, carrying \$95,000,000, was passed by the House. An amendment to strike out the provision for an additional battleship was defeated by a vote of 114 to 146. The postoffice appropriation bill was taken up and an agreement made that general debate should cease at 12 o'clock noon the following Tuesday. The conference report on the diplomatic and consular bill was adopted.

The administration plan to settle the California Japanese situation was approved by the Senate in the adoption of the conference report on the immigration bill Saturday. This report contains a provision which authorizes the President to exclude Japanese laborers from the United States at his discretion. The postoffice appropriation bill was taken up by the House, but general debate was not concluded. During the morning hour a number of bills were passed, among them being measures permitting the special delivery of letters carrying ordinary stamps and limiting to Jan. 1, 1909, the operation of acts to reimburse the governors of states and territories for expenses incurred in aiding the United States to raise troops in the war with Spain.

As the result of more than five hours' consideration of the agricultural appropriation bill Monday, the Senate increased from \$5,500 to \$5,000 the salary of Gifford Pinchot, chief of the bureau of forestry. Practically no progress was made on the bill. Under a suspension of the rules the House adopted the conference report on the immigration bill by a vote of 101 to 101. The House refused to suspend the rules and pass the bill recommended by the interstate and foreign commerce committee as a substitute for the so-called La Follette bill limiting employment on railroads to sixteen hours, the Democrats voting solidly against the substitute. Mr. Overstreet of Indiana asked that general debate terminate on the postoffice appropriation bill at 4 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. A resolution was adopted authorizing the clerk to insert a provision in the bill looking to the reduction of the compensation to railroads for carrying mails to take effect July 1.

Senator Reed Smoot's address in defense of his position as Senator was the feature of the Senate session Tuesday. He was supported by Senator Dillingham of Vermont in a speech analytical of the evidence submitted. The Senate spent several hours in further consideration of the forestry provisions in the agricultural appropriation bill, with the result that several amendments were agreed to which restrict the operations of the bureau in several respects. The section of the bill had not been completed when a recess was taken for the evening session. At the night session several bills which were not of general importance were passed. After passing a number of bills under unanimous consent the House resumed consideration of the postoffice appropriation bill. Speeches were made by Messrs. Gillespie of Texas, Murphy of Missouri, Robinson of Arkansas, Padgett of Tennessee, Lloyd of Missouri, Stetson of Minnesota, Finley of South Carolina and Stafford of Wisconsin. Mr. Macon of Arkansas made a point of order against the paragraphs increasing the pay of clerks in first and second class postoffices and carriers in the city delivery service. A spirited passage of words ensued between Mr. Macon and Mr. Fitzgerald of New York, wherein the latter gave notice that he would seek that a point of order was made against that section providing for the increase for rural carriers. Mr. Macon refused to abandon his position and the chair sustained the points of order.

**Roosevelt on Child Labor.**  
A letter from President Roosevelt to the New York Consumers' League takes the ground that while he would prefer to have local and State authorities work out reforms to overcome the evils of child labor, that if these authorities do not do so, that they should in matters of such vital importance to the nation, "then there will be no choice but for the national government to interfere."

**Jersey Industries Prosperous.**  
The New Jersey bureau of commerce and labor reports that the 2,990 manufacturing plants of the State now represent \$21,000,000 capital. These employed last year 239,112 persons, of whom 28 per cent were women and children. The average yearly earning was \$488, an increase of \$18. A steady increase of wages since 1890 has been more than offset by the increased cost of living. Sixty per cent of these factories are run by corporations. This form of management is steadily growing in favor.

**A Liberal Church for Crapsey.**  
During his recent visit to New York, Rev. Algernon S. Crapsey of Rochester, who was forced out of the Episcopal church on charges of heresy, admitted that a movement was on foot among his influential friends to organize a popular religious body in New York, and carrying other cities, for the purpose of carrying out his liberal ideas. He said, however, that he had not fully made up his mind as to the proper course, thinking it possible that the Unitarian church might cover the advance ground. In whatever connection, however, he would be an advocate of truth-telling.

## KEEPING UP WITH THE WEATHER



—Indianapolis News.

### UNCLE SAM'S COMMERCE BOOMS.

His Trade Growth in Two Years Is More than \$31,000,000.

The enormous growth in American trade with its noncontiguous territories in the last calendar year as contrasted with the preceding one is shown in figures compiled by the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor recently made public. In value this commerce aggregates \$131,000,000, compared with less than \$100,000,000 in 1904.

Of this trade \$59,000,000, in round numbers, consisted of merchandise shipped to those territories and \$72,000,000 worth of merchandise received from them. In addition to this there was received from Alaska over \$18,500,000 worth of gold, being its own production, and \$8,500,000 of foreign gold, principally from the British territory adjacent.

Of the \$70,000,000 worth of merchandise sent to the noncontiguous territories about \$22,000,000 worth went to Porto Rico, \$17,500,000 to Alaska, \$12,500,000 to Hawaii and \$7,000,000 to the Philippines.

The following figures show how American shipments of merchandise have increased in 1906 as compared with 1904: Porto Rico from \$12,000,000 to \$22,000,000, Alaska from \$11,500,000 to \$17,500,000, Hawaii from \$11,000,000 to \$12,500,000 and to the Philippines from \$5,000,000 to a little over \$7,000,000.

Shipments of merchandise from noncontiguous territories to the United States during the same period have increased as follows: Hawaii from \$25,500,000 to nearly \$30,000,000; Porto Rico from \$14,000,000 to \$20,750,000, Alaska from \$10,500,000 to \$12,000,000, while in the case of the Philippines there is shown a slight reduction. The gold received from Alaska, the total of domestic production, was in 1904 a little over \$9,000,000 and in 1906 \$18,500,000.

### Rockefeller's Big Gift.

All records for benevolent donations were surpassed with the announcement that John D. Rockefeller had given \$12,000,000 to the general educational board, a body incorporated by Congress for the purpose of promoting education throughout the country by means of gifts and otherwise. While the board is not confined to the distribution of Mr. Rockefeller's donations, nevertheless he has been the principal contributor to its funds since its organization, having given \$11,000,000 on a previous occasion. This latest contribution is the largest ever made by an individual for any social or philanthropic purpose in the history of the race. The only condition attached to the gift is that Mr. Rockefeller and his son may direct the disbursement of two-thirds of the amount. The younger Rockefeller is a member of the general educational board, and it was through him that the board was advised of his father's addition to the endowment. It is understood to be the purpose of the board to assist colleges, as distinguished from the larger institutions known as universities. The board promptly accepted the gift and acknowledged its gratitude to the donor.

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### BRITAIN'S NEW AMBASSADOR.



JAMES BRYCE.

James Bryce, British ambassador to the United States, accompanied by Mrs. Bryce, has arrived in Washington. Mr. Bryce, who was chief secretary for Ireland when named to succeed Sir Henry Mortimer Durand at Washington, is one of the very few commoners appointed to that post. The majority of the British diplomats accredited to the United States have been peers. He refused knighthood some time after Mr. Gladstone declined to make him a peer. He was chief secretary for Switserland in the cabinet of Lord Salisbury after the Kingston earthquake.

### Star Back from Africa.

Prof. Frederick Star of the university of Chicago, department of anthropology, has just returned from the Congo, where he spent over a year studying the pygmy races along the Kafu and Batua rivers. The pygmies average 3 feet 10 inches in height. To a reporter he said: "Their most interesting game is nothing more nor less than 'cat's cradle,' a game known to most American boys. I saw them playing the game just after I reached the Congo, and I spent much time investigating the game and its origin. I found that the natives played over 100 different forms of the game. The negroes of the Congo Free State are bright, intelligent people. I went up the Congo as far as the falls, and then continued ground up to the upper stream. The trip up the Olu river was most interesting. I was the second white man to go into that country to such an extent. I kept near the stream, however. I had a number of narrow escapes."



It is comforting to know that our pure food hereafter is to be pure.

Count Tolstoi refuses to corroborate the cable reports to the effect that he is dying.

The discovery that Limburger cheese is effective for the cure of tuberculosis ought to prove a strong theory.

It seems to be easier for railroads to get good presidents than good men to run the trains and operate signal systems.

It would take 266 2/3 estates to furnish proper dowries to the 800 widows left by the late lamented Shah of Persia.

Lobsters bring only 10 cents apiece in New England. On the New York chorus city circles they bring \$10 suppers and diamond necklaces.

Nebogott's name is a discouraging one for a man sentenced to death for surrendering his ship to the Japs, but the severity of the penalty insures its non-execution.

It seems that the real reason for the shortage of coal in the Northwest is not shortage of cars, but shortage of time, the local dealers in coal having refused to stock up ahead of winter.

Mark Twain has come back from Bermuda because Shakespeare and Milton are dead and he doesn't want literature to suffer. He needn't have hurried. We always have Mrs. Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

Gen. Funston says a San Francisco bricklayer gets more pay than any other officer. But he must remember that the bricklayer works.

The sensationalists who insist on the United States going to war with Japan are about 10,000 miles from where shooting could begin.

Chancellor Day of Syracuse university upon investigation of the principal reason why people are poor is that they haven't made enough money.

The young Swede in New York who cornered cottonseed oil and made more than \$1,000,000 for himself and friends is no doubt a smooth manipulator.