

ROOSEVELT VETOES DEMAND FOR RICH WATER RIGHTS

President Urges Necessity of Conserving Natural Resources for Which Corporations Are Grabbing.

THE GIST OF IT.

The great corporations are acting with foresight, the highest of foresight and vigor to control the water powers of the country. Thirteen concerns directly or indirectly control developed water power and additional water power sites equal to more than 33 per cent of the total water power now in use. This astonishing concentration has taken place practically within the last five years.

To give away, without conditions, this one of the greatest of our resources, would be an act of folly. If we are guilty of it, our children will be forced to pay the bill, turn upon a capitalization based upon the highest prices which the traffic will bear.

I esteem it my duty to use every endeavor to prevent this growing monopoly, the most threatening of which has ever appeared, from being fastened upon the people of this nation.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 19.—President Roosevelt sent a special message to the House with his veto of the bill providing for the construction of a dam across the James river in Stone county, Mo., the purpose of the dam being to get water to create electric power. He declared that the movement to secure control of the water power of the country is still in its infancy, but unless it is controlled by the public, the industry will be repeated in the hydro-electric power industry, with results far more oppressive and disastrous.

"It is true," he added, "that the great bulk of our potential water power is as yet undeveloped, but the sites which are not controlled by the public are those which offer the greatest advantages and therefore hold a strategic position."

He says the bill gives to the grantee a valuable privilege which by its very nature is made a part of the annual return of the conditions essential to protect the public interest.

The message was received indifferently. After its reading it was referred to the committee on interstate and foreign commerce.

The Message.

The message in part is as follows: "To the House of Representatives: I return herewith without my approval House bill 1707 to authorize William H. Smith to construct a dam across the James river, in Stone county, Mo., and divert a portion of its waters through a tunnel into the said river again to create electric power. My reasons for not signing the bill are:

"The bill gives to the grantee a valuable privilege, which by its very nature is made a part of the annual return of the conditions essential to protect the public interest.

"The people of the country are threatened by a monopoly far more powerful, because in far closer touch with their domestic and foreign markets than anything known to our experience, a single generation will see the exhaustion of our natural resources of oil and gas and such a rise in the price of these commodities as to make the price of electrically transmitted water power a controlling factor in transportation, in manufacturing, and in household lighting and heating. Our water power alone, if fully developed and wisely used, is probably sufficient for our present transportation, manufacturing, municipal and domestic needs. Most of it is undeveloped and is still in national or interstate control.

Act of Folly.

To give away, without conditions, this one of the greatest of our resources, would be an act of folly. If we are guilty of it, our children will be forced to pay the bill, turn upon a capitalization based upon the highest prices which the traffic will bear. They will find themselves face to face with a monopoly, the most threatening of which has ever appeared, from being fastened upon the people of this nation.

Worse Than Oil.

This astonishing concentration has taken place practically within the last five years. The movement is still in its infancy, and unless it is controlled, the history of the oil industry will be repeated in the hydro-electric power industry, with results far more oppressive and disastrous for the people. It is true that the great bulk of our potential water power is as yet undeveloped, but the sites which are now controlled by combinations of the great corporations are those which offer the greatest advantages and therefore hold a strategic position. This is certain to be strengthened by the increasing demand for power and the extension of long distance electrical transmission.

Act With Vigor.

The great corporations are acting with foresight, singleness of purpose and vigor to control the water power of the country. They pay no attention to state boundaries and are not interested in the constitutional law affecting navigable streams except as it affords what has been aptly called a "twilight zone," where they may find a convenient refuge from any regulation whatever by the public government. It is significant that they are opposing the control of water power

on the Des Moines river by the state of Illinois with equal vigor and with like arguments to those with which they oppose the national government pursuing the policy I advocate. They are opposed to those who refer to their projects upon the mountain streams of the West, where the jurisdiction of the federal government as the owner of the public lands and national forests is not open to question. They are demanding legislation for unconditional grants in perpetuity of land for reservoirs, conduits, power houses, and transmission lines to replace the existing statute which authorizes the administrative officers of the government to impose conditions to protect the public interest. Several bills for that purpose are now pending in both houses, among them the bill S. 6628, to subject lands owned or held by the state or any political subdivision thereof, and the bills, H. R. 11336 and S. 2661, respectively, to grant locations and rights of way for electric and other power purposes through the public lands and reservations of the United States. These bills were either drafted by representatives of the power companies, or are similar in effect to those now existing. On the other hand, the administration proposes that authority be given to issue power permits for a term not to exceed five years, renewable except for breach of condition. This provision to prevent revocation would remove the only valid ground of objection to the act of 1901, which extends such terms, and permits revocation at discretion. The following amendment to authorize this in national forests was inserted in last year's agricultural appropriation bill:

"And hereafter permits for power plants within national forests may be made irrevocable, except for breach of condition, for such term, not exceeding 50 years, as the secretary of agriculture may by regulation prescribe, and land covered by such permits issued in pursuance of any application filed before the expiration of the act of June 11, 1906, shall in perpetuity remain subject to such permit and renewals thereof."

A Powerful Lobby.

The representatives of the power companies in Washington during the last session agreed upon the bill above mentioned as the most favorable to their interests. At their request frequent conferences were held between them and the representatives of the administration for the purpose of reaching an agreement if possible. The companies refused to accept anything less than a grant in perpetuity and insisted that the slight charge now imposed by the federal government be removed. But they made no response to the specific proposal that the reasonableness of the charge be determined through an investigation of the business by the bureau of corporations.

"The amendment of the agricultural bill providing for irrevocable permits being the only legislation which would give the House rules upon a point of order made by friends of the House bill—that is, by friends of the power companies. Yet, in the general interest of the public, the power companies complain that they are forced to accept revocable permits by the policy of the administration.

"The legislation sought in their own interest by some companies in the West, and the opposition of other companies in the East to proposed legislation in the public interest have a common source in the rapidly growing water-power combination. Their purpose is a centralized monopoly of electric power development and distribution of all public control. It is obvious that a monopoly of power in any community calls for strict public supervision and regulation.

Back Into Court.

Flushing, N. Y., Jan. 15.—The jury in the trial of Thornton Jenkins Hains, after deliberating all night, sent word to Justice Crane at 8 o'clock this morning that they would like to have read to them certain testimony.

Hains Affected.

The defendant smiled when he heard the verdict, but his eyes were filled with tears when he turned to his counsel and shook them by the hand.

It is learned from one of the jurors that seven ballots were taken in the first ballot stood eight to four for acquittal. The next change came early this morning, when the ballot showed nine jurors in favor of freeing the defendant.

Justice Crane Explains.

"I think I can make that clear," said Justice Crane. "If Thornton Hains merely walked away while the shooting was going on, he's not guilty; but if he went down on that float, though with no design to kill, but to stop others from preventing killing, he is guilty of manslaughter in the first degree." Hains stood guard over his brother, Peter, while the latter shot Annis at the Bay Side Yacht club, August 15, last, but did not actually participate in the shooting. His brother has not yet been put on trial.

ANARCHIST JAILED AS FATHER DIES

San Francisco, Jan. 18.—Emma Goldman, the notorious anarchist, and Ben Reitman, well known as "King of the Hoboes," were arrested late last night as they were about to hold one of eight meetings they had previously announced, and lodged in the city prison on eight charges of conspiracy to riot.

DRUNKEN MAN IS BURNED IN HOME

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STATEHOOD BILL WILL NOT PASS, SAY SENATORS

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TO TRY 82 LOOTERS.

Messina, Jan. 19.—Eighty-two persons, arrested for stealing during the earthquake disaster, will be tried by a court of martial law.

STRIKE OF 25,000 MEN IS ORDERED

New York, Jan. 18.—Following the receipt of the order discontinuing the use of the union label, the national board of the United Hatters of America, having about 25,000 members, today ordered all employees in factories owned or controlled by members of the Associated Hat manufacturers, to go on strike.

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The hearing also developed that in addition to hurling a plate of salad at Jerome, Vilas also tried to plaster his face with a piece of tender custard pie, and would have accomplished the trick had not members led him into the open air.

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Famous Russian Admiral is Dead

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St. Petersburg, Jan. 18.—The death of Vice Admiral Rojevstenski, who was in command of the Russian fleet in May, 1905, when it was practically annihilated by the Japanese battle of the Sea of Japan, occurred here yesterday due to neuralgia of the heart.

THORNTON J. HAINS IS FOUND NOT GUILTY

Defendant Is Much Affected When Decision of Jurors Is Announced.

Flushing, N. Y., Jan. 15.—Thornton Jenkins Hains, who, together with his brother, captain Peter C. Hains, was charged with the murder of William E. Annis, was today acquitted by the jury.

The jury was out 22 hours. When the verdict was announced a great shout came from the crowded court room. The general manager ordered the spectators from the room.

Hains Affected.

The defendant smiled when he heard the verdict, but his eyes were filled with tears when he turned to his counsel and shook them by the hand.

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JAPANESE REGARD THE BILLS LIGHTLY

Newspapers Not Inflamed Over Bills in California Assembly Against Aliens.

Tokyo, Jan. 16.—Though certain of the Japanese newspapers are seriously exercised over anti-Japanese bills before the California legislature, others style the matter a "tempest in a teapot."

There is no tendency to find a sinister design in the increase of the American navy, and newspapers generally are expressing the opinion that America's growing interests in the Pacific demand a stronger navy, even when it has no particular enemy in mind.

ANTI-JAPANESE MEASURES IN CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY

Sacramento, Cal., Jan. 16.—The three anti-Japanese bills introduced in the assembly by Grove L. Johnson, of Sacramento, and the one by A. M. Drew, of Fresno, prohibiting aliens from holding land in the state have attracted such wide interest that the 1,000 copies printed of each are already exhausted and there is a demand for more.

The Johnson bill is designed to prevent Japanese being directors of corporations, to segregate their children in the schools, and to segregate all Japanese by defining the limits within which they must live. The bill relating to directors of corporations prohibits all aliens from being members of such boards, and its purpose is to prevent competition with powerful Japanese concerns with American capital.

The third Johnson bill gives municipalities power to prescribe the limits within which "undesirable, improper and unhealthy persons whose practices are dangerous to the public morals of a community" shall live.

"I regard the presence of Japanese as more dangerous a hundredfold than that of Chinese. In our schools, Japanese youths of 16 to 18 years, with their characteristic disregard for the virtue of women, should not be permitted to sit beside our own children. They are a menace to the girlhood of the state," said Representative Johnson.

FARMER KILLED AN UNKNOWN MAN

Atpeka, Kan., Jan. 16.—Topeka's famous hostelry, the Copeland, noted as the stopping place of legislators and politicians, was destroyed by fire early today.

E. Lambert, of Emporia, one of the most prominent politicians in the state, is missing, and is believed to have been burned to death. A dozen of the 150 guests were injured, but none is thought to have been fatally hurt. There were many sensational escapes, several persons jumping from windows. The seriously injured are:

Mrs. W. J. Morgan, wife of the editor of the Hutchinson News.
W. C. Murray, Kansas City, Kan.
Thomas Benton, (son) of Murdock, Eldorado, a well known editor.
A. W. Smith, of McPherson, former republican candidate for governor.

The Copeland hotel was of brick construction, four stories in height. It was built during the corner of Ninth and Kansas avenues, one block from the state capitol. It was one of the oldest hotels in the state of Kansas.

It had a roomy lobby and wide hallways, plentifully supplied with fire escapes. The main staircase, however, was built around the elevator, and the flames, shooting up the shaft, soon shut off this means of escape.

The fire started shortly after 4 o'clock this morning in the kitchen cellar, partly from escaping gas. The flames had gained great headway when the fire apparatus first arrived. The rear staircase had been cut off as a means of escape.

As soon as the fire was discovered Henry Willis, the colored porter, and William Jenkins, night watchman, began a systematic trip through the house, waking the guests, men and women and children, scantily clad, soon crowding the upper halls. About 150 guests managed to get to the lower floor and out through the front and side doors before the stairway was cut off. Half a dozen were forced to jump from the windows, while others were rescued by the firemen from the windows of the hotel and from the tops of adjoining buildings to which they had jumped from the fire escape landings. But few of the guests had time to collect their personal belongings. Most of them got out only in their night clothes.

The ground was covered with snow and the fugues tramped barefooted and scantily clad to the Y. M. C. A. building and to nearby drug stores, where the injured were cared for. Within an hour after the fire started the hotel was a mass of ruins, only the walls remaining.

The loss is estimated at \$100,000.

BITTER DISAPPOINTMENT IN SIBERIAN GOVERNMENT

Belgrade, Serbia, Jan. 15.—The announcement that the Turkish government had accepted the Austro-Hungarian offer is a bitter disappointment to the Serbian government. The call for war was summoned immediately after the foreign office had received the news. The king presided, and the new situation created by the settlement between Turkey and Austro-Hungary was discussed at much length.

The ministry for war ordered 1,300 additional horses. The newspapers declare hotly that Austro-Hungary will have to exterminate the Serbian people before being permitted definitely to possess Bosnia.

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CARMICHAEL CRIME

Tried to Mix Identity of Victim With His Own to Defraud Companies.

Burlington, Ia., Jan. 15.—"John B. Carmichael killed Gideon Browning in an effort to get the impression that he himself was the victim and that his wife might get his insurance money."

This declared Deputy Sheriff Moore, through here yesterday afternoon with the body of Carmichael, who killed himself at Carthage, Ill., after fleeing there from Adair, Mich., where he killed Browning in the Rattle Run Methodist Episcopal church.

"This mercenary murderer insisted the deputy, 'caused Carmichael deliberately to plan and carry out the murder.' He regards the minister's story of Browning's hypnotic influence as a mere invention of the murderer for possible use in his defense.

Sheriff Waggonstall and Deputy Sheriff Moore, of Port Huron; Lieutenant Ely Baker, of the Detroit police department, and two Chicago detectives identified the body of Carmichael at Carthage and took charge of it.

Hypodermic syringe wounds were found on the body. This suggested to some that Carmichael was a victim of drugs. In one of Carmichael's pockets was discovered Browning's watch. It was also ascertained that the pocket knife with which Carmichael committed suicide was Browning's.

The letter left by the murderer to Mrs. Carmichael was made public yesterday. In it Carmichael accuses himself of cowardice in trying to face the consequence of his act.

Last Letter Home.

Following is Carmichael's letter to his wife:

"Dear Wife: I am so tired of being chased that I have written to the sheriff telling him all of the particulars of this awful tragedy. I cannot see why it came about as it did. My money I had kept concealed on my person while Joe was at home and happened to have it with me on that awful night, so I have had plenty to use. You know that I did not prepare to leave in such a hurry. Others may not understand it that way. I soon will be in the hands of the state officials or in those of the judge of all. I wish I had told you or some other friends of the influence that man was gaining over me, but I faced the matter squarely as soon as he was dead. I always was a coward and it has robbed me of my judgment. I thought I could get away and hide and then be helpful to you in some way when the excitement should be all over. Goody to you and all my children, Carl, Joe and Kirtha. Your loving husband, J. H. Carmichael."

"P. S.—This is my share of the Axtell property. I shall never need it. I enclose herewith \$185."

It has been ascertained that Carmichael during his flight rode on a Burlington train from Chicago to Mount Pleasant, Ia., arriving there Thursday morning. He passed Thursday there, intending to go to Donnellson, Ia. He had checked his baggage to that point, but missed a train. Then he had his baggage forwarded to Burlington. After having his beard shaved off, completely changing his appearance, he went to Carthage Friday afternoon on a freight train.

BALKAN WAR CLOUD THERETENS NO MORE

Constantinople, Jan. 15.—There is little doubt that parliament will ratify the Austro-Hungarian ultimatum to the Serbians, and that the Austro-Hungarian government will be raised immediately.

It is believed that the ambassadors of Great Britain, Germany, France and Italy all advised Kiamil Pasha to accept the offer, and that although both the young Turkey committee and the boycott committee were against the acceptance they will loyally accept the government's decision.

The greatest satisfaction is expressed on all sides at the successful conclusion of the negotiations, as it is believed war will now be averted. The next care of the Austro-Hungarian government will be to rebuild the Austrian trade in Turkey by the removal of the boycott which led to its collapse. The movement continues in the belief that Serbia has no grounds for complaint, and as a protection against any surprise will keep up military preparations in the annexed provinces and on the Serbian and Montenegrin frontiers.

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Washington, Jan. 15.—"The time is coming in this country when trees will be as scarce as diamonds unless immediate steps are taken to preserve our forests."

DRUNKEN MAN IS BURNED IN HOME

Gettysburg, S. D., Jan. 19.—R. C. McCloud, a former railroad man in the employ of the Northwestern, was burned in his house, which was consumed by fire Thursday night. McCloud was taken home drunk, and it is thought that in some way he set fire to the house. His head and arms were burned off, making identification difficult.

STATEHOOD BILL WILL NOT PASS, SAY SENATORS

Washington, Jan. 19.—Delegations from New Mexico and Arizona, which have come here to press the claims of those territories for statehood, have learned that the Senate leaders do not intend to permit the statehood bill to pass at the present session. This decision has been reached at an informal conference of Senate leaders.

STRIKE OF 25,000 MEN IS ORDERED

New York, Jan. 18.—Following the receipt of the order discontinuing the use of the union label, the national board of the United Hatters of America, having about 25,000 members, today ordered all employees in factories owned or controlled by members of the Associated Hat manufacturers, to go on strike.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ASKS TAFT TO NAME WILSON SECRETARY

Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 16.—The Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce yesterday telegraphed President-elect Taft, asking him to reappoint James Wilson secretary of agriculture.