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NO. 4.

FOR CONSERVATION

President Approves Report of National Commission.

SENDS MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

Urges Measures to Conserve the Natural Resources as a Legacy to Posterity—Should be Put in Effect Without Delay.

President Roosevelt, Friday transmitted to Congress the following bearing on the conservation of our natural resources.

I transmit herewith a report of the national conservation commission, together with the accompanying papers. This report, which is the outgrowth of the conference of Governors last May, was unanimously approved by the recent joint conference held in this city between the national conservation commission and Governors of the States. State conservation commissions and conservation committees of great organizations of citizens. It is therefore in a peculiar sense representative of the whole nation and all its parts.

The facts set forth in this report constitute an imperative call to action. The situation they disclose demands that we neglect for a time, if need be, smaller and less vital questions, shall concentrate an effective part of our attention upon the great material foundations of national existence, progress and prosperity.

The progress of our knowledge of this country will continually lead to more accurate information and better use of the sources of national strength. It is not necessary that this knowledge should be exact in every minute detail. It is essential that it should correctly describe the general situation. The conservation of our resources is the fundamental question before this nation.

Our population is now adding about one-fifth to its numbers in ten years. Many millions more must be fed and clothed from the products of our soil. With the steady growth in population and the still more rapid increase in consumption, our people will hereafter make greater and not less demands upon all the natural resources for their livelihood, comfort and convenience. It is high time to realize that our responsibility to the coming millions is like that of parents to their children, and that in wasting our resources we are wronging our descendants.

Our rivers can and should be made to serve our people effectively in transportation, but the vast expenditures for our waterways have not resulted in maintaining, much less in promoting, inland navigation. Therefore, let us take immediate steps to ascertain the reasons and to prepare and adopt a comprehensive plan for inland waterway navigation. Our forests are fast disappearing, and less than one-fifth of them are being conserved, and no good purpose can be met by failing to provide the relatively small sums needed for the protection, use, and improvement of all forests still owned by the government. Let us enact laws to check the wasteful destruction of the forests in private lands. The American people stand nearly as a unit for waterway development and for forest protection.

Mineral Resources Wasted.

Our mineral resources once exhausted are gone forever, and the needless waste of them costs us hundreds of human lives and nearly \$300,000,000 a year. Therefore, let us undertake without delay the investigations necessary before our people will be in position, through State action or otherwise, to put an end to this huge loss and waste, and conserve both our mineral resources and the lives of the men who take them from the earth.

The conservation of our natural resources is of first consideration. If we of this generation destroy the resources from which our children would otherwise derive their livelihood, we reduce the capacity of our land to support a population, and we either degrade the standard of living or deprive the coming generations of their rights to life on this continent.

If we allow great industrial organizations to exercise unregulated control of the means of production and the necessities of life, we deprive the Americans of today and of the future of industrial liberty, a right no less precious and vital than political freedom.

The distribution which is just to a close, has at least seen that the fundamental basis of freedom of opportunity for every citizen. No man need be set apart from the allowed to play the game of competition with loaded dice. The unequal existence of monopolies is incompatible with equality of opportunity. The reason for the exercise of government control over the means of

lies is to equalize opportunity.

Waterways.
Accordingly, I urge that the broad plan for the development of our waterways, recommended by the Inland Waterways Commission, be put in effect without delay.

The work of waterways development should be undertaken without delay. Meritorious projects in known conformity with the general outline of any comprehensive plan should proceed at once. The cost of the whole work should be met by direct appropriation if possible, but if necessary by the issue of bonds in small denominations.

It is especially important that the development of water power should be guarded with the utmost care both by the national government and by the States in order to protect the people against the upgrowth of monopoly and to insure to them a fair share in the benefits which will follow the development of this great asset which belongs to the people and should be controlled by them.

Forests.
I urge that provision be made for both protection and more rapid development of the national forests. Otherwise, either the increasing use of these forests by the people must be checked or their protection against fire must be dangerously weakened. If we compare the actual damage on similar areas on private and national forest lands during the past year, the government fire patrol saved commercial timber worth as much as the total cost of caring for all national forests at the present rate for about ten years.

Lands.
The use of the public grazing lands should be regulated in such ways as to improve and conserve their value. Rights to the surface of the public land should be separated from rights to forests upon it and to minerals beneath it, and these should be subject to separate disposal.

The coal, oil, gas and phosphate rights still remaining with the government should be withdrawn from entry and leased under conditions favorable for economic development.

Minerals.
The consumption of nearly all of our mineral products is increasing more rapidly than our population. Our mineral waste is about one-sixth of our product, or nearly \$1,000,000 for each working day in the year. The loss of structural materials through fire is about another million a day. The loss of life in the mines is appalling. The larger part of these losses can be avoided.

A part of the action of the joint conference says: We also especially urge on the Congress of the United States the high desirability of maintaining a national commission on the conservation of the resources of the country, empowered to co-operate with State commissions to the end that every section of the country may attain the high degree of prosperity and the sureness of perpetuity naturally arising in the abundant resources and the vigor, intelligence, and patriotism of our people.

In this recommendation I most heartily concur, and I urge that an appropriation of at least \$50,000 be made to cover the expenses of the national conservation commission for necessary rent, assistance and traveling expenses. This is a very small sum. I know of no other way in which the appropriation of so small a sum would result in so large a benefit to the whole nation.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

Mrs. Palmer Not Guilty.
Tampa, Fla., Special.—The jury trying Mrs. Pauline Palmer, for the murder of her husband, Luke Palmer, in July last, at their home, Friday rendered a verdict of not guilty, after a trial lasting a week. The defense claimed the killing was done to protect the chastity of Mollie Powers, 13-year-old servant girl, who was being assaulted by Palmer at the time. The State claimed conspiracy to kill Palmer for life insurance.

"Womanhood Must Be Protected"

Says Negro Bishop.
Franklin, La., Special.—"I stand ready to go with the whites today right into hell to protect a woman, white or black, against a fiend," said Bishop E. W. Lampton, of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, in his charge to the Louisiana Conference of his church here Saturday night. "Womanhood must be protected; let us do our part."

Would Not Increase Pension.

Washington, Special.—A motion by Representative Olcott, of New York, to increase the pension of Julia B. Cobble, widow of Rear Admiral Coughlan, United States navy, from \$30 a month as provided for in a pension bill, to \$100 a month, was defeated by a majority of 42 to 103.

SHIPS IN COLLISION

White Star Liner Republic and Lloyd Liner Florida

MEET OFF NANTUCKET ISLAND

Republic Goes to Bottom After Unloading Her 781 Passengers and Crew—Greatest Peat in History of Wireless Telegraphy—Four Are Killed.

New York, Special.—Grief and anxiety prevailed here Saturday and Sunday night as the result of the thrilling maritime drama being enacted off Nantucket on the coast of New England, following the ramming early Saturday of the big White Star liner Republic with 781 souls aboard, by the steamer Florida, of the Lloyd-Italian line. The wireless telegraph played an important part in the grave incidents happening at sea, far from the shore, and proved its utility as it has never done before.

Bit by bit it told the tale, first announcing the news of the collision and the plight of the liner, which news came direct from the injured ship itself. Then it told of the rescue of the Republic's passengers, the condition from time to time of the sinking ship and finally summoned the two adjacent seas the White Star line Baltic, the French steamer La Lorraine, the Currunder steamer and the revenue cutters Aehushnet and Gresham.

At 8 o'clock p. m. the wireless brought reassuring news from Captain Ransom, of the steamer Baltic. He said that the Republic was still afloat; that the Florida, with her own people and most of those from the Republic aboard, close to 2,000 souls in all, was nearby and that the Baltic was near the scene, standing by ready to lend aid. The steamers La Lorraine and Lucania, Captain Ransom said, were also in the vicinity and the Republic through her wireless outfit, was directing the movements of the ships of the fleet.

Until an early hour Sunday it was believed the crashing together of the two big ships had not resulted in death of injury to a single passenger or member of the crews. Shortly after midnight, however, the wireless telegraph flashed the news that two passengers on the Republic had been killed and two others injured. Late in the day another wireless message told of four deaths on board the Florida, either of members of the crew or stowage passengers.

It is apparent that the Florida must have been between 30 or 40 miles off her course in being anywhere near the Republic, as the east-bound and westbound steamer lanes here are that distance apart.

The collision, being a midship, almost immediately flooded the engine room of the Republic and of course rendered her absolutely helpless. Fortunately, her wireless equipment was well supplied with storage batteries and three were used for more than six hours, until they gradually became exhausted. After that, recourse to signaling by means of submarine bells was adopted.

In the middle of the forenoon the transfer of passengers to the Florida was made, and although the fog was very dense, unusually calm weather for this season of the year in the North Atlantic enabled the transfer to be made without accident. By noon the Baltic and LaLorraine were close to the scene of collision, but owing to the dense fog, were unable to locate the Republic, although the submarine bells could be heard frequently.

The prompt closing of the Republic's water-tight compartments which kept her afloat and undoubtedly saved the lives of many of those on board. In the afternoon it was learned from the Baltic that these compartments were still holding the vessel above water, but that the bulkheads and compartment doors were under a fearful strain and likely to give way at any moment.

A dispatch at 8:30 Sunday night said: "Republic gone down. No one aboard. All crew safe on revenue cutter Gresham."

An hour later another wireless message was received stating that the revenue cutter Gresham, with the Republic crew on board was proceeding to Gayhead.

The Republic's passengers found 900 returning Italians, many of them survivors of the earthquake, on board the Florida, which left Naples on January 9th.

ELIHU ROOT TESTIFIES

Tells the Grand Jury What He Knows About the Purchase of the Canal, But Refuses to Give Out Anything.

Washington, Special.—"I simply brought my subpoena and conscience with me," jeocularly remarked Secretary of State Elihu Root, who Friday was one of the chief witnesses before the United States grand jury in its investigation of the alleged libel in connection with the purchase of the Panama canal. The Secretary made the remark to newspaper men who sought to interview him a few minutes before he went into the grand jury room. Senator Knox, of Pennsylvania, and Assistant Attorney General Charles W. Russell, also gave testimony. All declined to throw any light upon the nature of their testimony.

William Nelson Cromwell may be one of the witnesses Saturday. "Well," said Secretary Root as he emerged from the grand jury room, "I cannot tell you boys, of course, how I testified. But I will say this—it is the first time I have ever been in this building since the trial of Charles J. Guiteau for the assassination of President Garfield, in 1882. I was then here as a spectator only."

COOPER-SHARPE TRIAL DRAGS.

Third Day's Session of the Cooper-Sharp Trial Closes Without the Addition of a Single Juror and the List Remains at Six.

Nashville, Tenn., Special.—The third day of the Cooper-Sharp murder trial passed not only without securing another juror, but if the motion of the State is sustained, one of the six already chosen will be eliminated because he was intoxicated when he reported for service and was chosen. The State claims it secured knowledge of juror Leigh's condition after it had accepted him.

The summoning of 500 additional talleys began late Thursday afternoon to appear Monday to complete the jury to try the alleged slayers of ex-Senator Edward W. Carmack.

When the six selected jurors were brought into court Friday morning, one of them, J. Whitworth, called Judge Hart and said: "Judge, I've been used to my morning toddy for a good many years and I missed it awfully this morning. Can't I get one—just one, every morning?"

"The constitution prohibits unusual or cruel punishments," remarked the court judicially. "Mr. Officer, see that those gentlemen who are wont to have a toddy get their toddy hereafter."

FLOODS SWEEP TRANSVAAL.

Bursting Dam Floods Gold Mine, Drowning 160 Laborers.

Johannesburg, Byable.—One hundred and seventy-three persons are known to have lost their lives Friday as a result of the floods which are general throughout the Transvaal colony and northern Natal. Great damage also has been done to property. By the bursting of Knight's dam, the Witwatersrand gold mine in the southwestern part of the Transvaal was flooded and ten white men and 130 natives were drowned. The water from this dam also flooded the lower section of the Town of Elsburg where a number of houses were swept away and 13 persons perished. A gold dredger valued at \$60,000 broke adrift on the Kaap river and was wrecked.

Saves Woman But Loses His Life.

Saranton, Pa., Special.—Mr. J. Duffy, station master of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad at Hallstead, was run down and killed by the New York flyer just in front of the station Sunday afternoon. Duffy ran out on the tracks to rescue a woman who was in danger of being run down by another train going in an opposite direction.

Boy Shoots His Father.

Jacksonville, Fla., Special.—William O. Bethea, a young white man, shot and instantly killed his father, George Bethea, late Friday afternoon as the old man was entering the home of his daughter in the western section of the city. There had been bad blood between father and son for some time, which terminated in a quarrel, which caused the old man's death. Bethea is under arrest.

Jones Elected Chief Justice.

Columbia, S. C., Special.—Associate Justice Ira B. Jones, of Lancaster, was elected Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of South Carolina for the unexpired term of Chief Justice Pope, whose resignation has been accepted. Mr. Jones has served on the Supreme Court Bench since January, 1896, with conspicuous ability. He is recognized as a man of unusual ability, and his written opinions as a member of the Supreme Court have been universally commended and favorably received. Mr. Jones has been in active public life for many years.

GOV'T COTTON REPORT

South Carolina Credited With 1,193,520 Bales and 4,229 Active Gineries.

Washington, Special.—There were 12,667,231 running bales of cotton ginned from the growth of 1908 to January 16, last, against 10,339,551 a year ago, and 27,441 active gineries, against 27,366 a year ago, according to the Census bureau report of Saturday. The report counts round as half bales and excludes linters. It includes 232,521 round bales for 1909, 188,037 for 1908 and 90,456 Sea Island bales for 1909, 80,190 for 1908. The total bales ginned in 1907 up to January 16, was 12,176,199, representing 93.8 of the crop of that year and of the 1908 crop 93.5 was ginned by January 16.

Today's report shows bales ginned and number of gineries operated respectively by States as follows:

	Bales.	Gins.
Alabama.....	1,317,266	3,477
Arkansas.....	931,540	2,115
Florida.....	931,540	2,115
Georgia.....	1,951,740	3,459
Kansas, Kentuck and New Mexico	1,787	6
Louisiana.....	458,723	1,696
Mississippi.....	1,551,265	3,476
Missouri.....	55,182	78
North Carolina.....	661,295	2,756
Oklahoma.....	621,618	984
South Carolina.....	1,193,420	3,229
Tennessee.....	321,677	649
Texas.....	3,529,426	3,148
Virginia.....	12,614	115

Distribution of Sea Island cotton for 1909 by States is Florida 345,007; Georgia 43,244; South Carolina 13,205. The corrected statistics of the quantity of cotton ginned this season to January 1 are 12,465,298 bales.

SUPPLY OF COTTON.

Secretary Hester's Report Shows 5,563,567 Bales Against 5,415,900 Last Week.

New Orleans, La., Special.—Secretary Hester's statement of the world's visible supply of cotton issued Saturday shows the total visible to be 5,563,567 bales, against 5,415,900 last week and 4,837,000 last year. Of this the total of American cotton is 4,529,567, against 4,449,060 last week and 3,734,730 last year, and of all other kinds, including Egypt, Brazil, India, etc., 1,034,000, against 966,000 last week and 1,102,870 last year.

Of the world's visible supply of cotton there is now afloat and held in Great Britain and Continental Europe 3,207,000, against 2,738,000 last year; in Egypt 297,000, against 238,000 last year; in India 347,000, against 471,000; and in the United States 1,713,000, against 1,391,000 last year.

New York, Special.—Spot cotton quiet; middling uplands 10.00; middling Gulf, 10.25; no sales. Futures opened firm and closed barely steady.

Months.	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Jan.....	9.78	9.76	9.87	9.87
Feb.....	.....	.....	.....	9.67
March.....	9.70	9.76	9.67	9.68
April.....	.....	.....	.....	9.67
May.....	9.65	9.74	9.65	9.66
June.....	.....	.....	.....	9.60
July.....	9.67	9.67	9.59	9.59
Aug.....	.....	9.62	9.46	9.47
Sept.....	9.43	9.48	9.43	9.46
Oct.....	9.41	9.47	9.38	9.41
Nov.....	.....	.....	.....	9.35
Dec.....	9.36	9.40	9.33	9.35

COLUMBIA COTTON MARKET.

(Quotations by L. V. Dibble.)
The Columbia cotton market for Saturday was as follows:
Good middling.....91.2
Strict middling.....93.8
Middling.....91.8
Low middling.....81.8

Raleigh Spot Cotton.

Receipts Saturday.....95 bales.
Price, best grades.....93.4 to 97.8c.

Virginian Railroad Completed.

Roanoke, Va., Special.—With the completion Saturday of the long bridge across New river, west of Roanoke, the last gap in the line of the Virginian Railroad, which has been built by Henry H. Rogers, from the coal fields to the sea, was closed and the first train was run through from Roanoke to Deepwater, W. Va., the western terminal.

Thaw Will Be Tried Again.

New York, Special.—Harry K. Thaw will be given trial in New York City to determine whether he is sane or insane. An order to that effect was issued by Justice A. S. Tompkins, to whom an appeal asking for a trial was made by Mrs. William Thaw, Harry's mother. Under Justice Tompkins' decision Thaw will not be given a trial by jury, the case to be heard before a court of judge of New York City, with or without the assistance of a referee as the trial judge may decide.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF

Items of Interest Gathered By Wire and Cable

GLEANINGS FROM DAY TO DAY

Live Items Covering Events of More or Less Interest at Home and Abroad.

General Miles, who has just returned from Europe, spoke of 90-mile rides, like that taken by the President, as nothing and said he could duplicate the feat at his age.

The famous Spring Hill College, one of the oldest Jesuit colleges in the Southern States, and well known even in Europe, was destroyed by fire Monday.

John D. Rockefeller has given another \$1,000,000 to the University of Chicago. Mr. Rockefeller's total contributions to the university aggregates \$24,800,000 for endowment and other purposes.

The Brookside Worsted Mills, North Chelmsford, Massachusetts, were burned on Wednesday, loss \$650,000.

The cotton crop for 1908 is now estimated at 12,759,000 bales.

Suit was begun at Nashville, Tenn., on Wednesday, against Duncan B. Cooper and son, Robin, and ex-sheriff John D. Sharp, for the killing of U. S. Senator E. W. Carmack. P. J. Keiran, of the New York Fidelity Co., who has been in hiding under charge of embezzlement, has surrendered to the law officers.

Ex-Secretary Elihu Root has been named by Republican caucus to succeed Senator Platt of New York, whose term expires with this congress.

At Hope, Ark., an 18-year-old Negro has been lynched for speaking insultingly to a lady saleswoman in a store.

Boston had an \$800,000 fire Sunday, including \$750,000 worth of automobiles.

Another Night Rider, Ed. Marshall is to be tried at Union City, Tenn., at once.

\$55,000 worth of Guilford, N. C., 5 per cent road bonds were sold Monday for \$60,537.40.

Blood hounds effected the capture of a Negro who attempted foul assault on Mrs. W. J. McLeod, near Clinton on last Wednesday.

The Federal grand jury has found a bill for peonage against Joshua W. Ashley, a member of the legislature from Anderson county.

Judge Jones designated February 19th as the day for hanging the six Night Riders convicted of murder in the first degree in the case of the slaying of Capt. Rankin.

Abbott L. Lowell has been named the successor to Charles W. Elliott as president of Cambridge University.

The Government was sustained by the Supreme Court in the \$1,623,900 fine against the Waters-Pierce Oil Company of Texas.

The Chicago and Alton Railway has filed an appeal in the adverse \$60,000 rebate fine case.

Two local option bills were introduced in the West Virginia Legislature.

Washington Notes.

George L. Lilley, who was elected Governor of Connecticut, did not resign as member of the lower House of Congress. He was declared, Wednesday, no longer a member of that body.

Mr. Willett, of New York, made a bitter attack Tuesday on the President, but the House stopped him.

Senator Bailey discussed the proposed increase of pay for the President and others, criticizing Mr. Roosevelt's allowances of expenses.

President Roosevelt asks the government of California to consider his reasons, now on the way, before enacting bill pending that is unfavorable to Japanese citizenship.

Mr. Rayner started a Senate inquiry into the libel suits against several newspapers. C. P. Taft arrived in Washington to testify.

Ex-Queen Lilloukalani is still pressing her claims before the House committee. She is willing to accept \$250,000 for her claim on Hawaii.

Foreign News.

Earthquake shocks are still reported from Messina and fires break out. Snow and rain cause great suffering.

A disastrous fire swept parts of the afflicted city of Messina on Tuesday.

Gen. Jose Miguel Gomez was officially proclaimed president of Cuba on Wednesday.

The Consul Stuart K. Lupton is to succeed Consul Cheney at Messina. Admiral Rojenstevsky, the commander of the Russian fleet which the Japanese destroyed, is dead.