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## CONSERVATION OF FORESTS

### 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, neglecting 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 per capita 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 capcity of our land to support a population, and so 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 to-day and of the future of industrial liberty, a right no less precious and vital than political freedom.

The administration which is just drawing to a close, has at least seen clearly the fundamental need of freedom of opportunity for every citizen. No man and no set of men should be allowed to stifle the cause of competition with loaded dice. The unchecked existence of monopoly is incompatible with equality of opportunity. The reason for the exercise of government control over great monop-

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 outlines 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.

**Land.**  
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 sovereign Commonwealth and 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.

### JOY WORK And the Other Kind.

Did you ever stand on a prominent corner at an early morning hour and watch the throngs of people on their way to work? Noting the number who were forcing themselves along because it meant their daily bread, and the others cheerfully and eagerly pursuing their way because of love of their work.

It is a fact that one's food has much to do with it. As an example: If an engine has poor oil, or a boiler is fired with poor coal, a bad result is certain, isn't it?

Treating your stomach right is the keystone that sustains the arch of health's temple, and you will find "Grape-Nuts" as a daily food is the most nourishing and beneficial you can use.

We have thousands of testimonials, real genuine little heart throbs, from people who simply tried Grape-Nuts out of curiosity—as a last resort—with the result that prompted the testimonial.

If you have never tried Grape-Nuts it's worth while to give it a fair, impartial trial. Remember there are millions eating Grape-Nuts every day—they know, and we know, if you will use Grape-Nuts every morning your work is more likely to be joy-work, because you can keep well, and with the brain well nourished work is a joy. Read the "Road to Well-being" in every package—"There's a Reason."

## MEETING OF THE LAWMAKERS

### Doings of the Legislature Told in Brief.

Wednesday's session of House and Senate involved nothing beyond routine work.

The joint resolution that the General Assembly adjourn sine die February 15th, introduced some day ago by Senator Elliott, came up and was almost unanimously voted down and a motion to reconsider made by Doekery also failed of the necessary support.

At noon the Senate repaired to the House for the joint session to announce the result of the balloting Tuesday in the two branches of the Assembly on election of United States Senator. This required 25 minutes.

A bill just introduced in the Senate by Senator Emple to provide no fence law for the whole of the State, is a bill that will attract very general interest. It is endorsed by the State forestry interests and has other very strong backing. It would apply the "no fence" law to every section of the State after 1910. It is estimated now that about four-fifths of the State is already under the operation of "no fence" laws. One of the contentions of the forestry interests is that the running at large of swine, for instance, prevents the growth of the young long-leaf pine in the eastern section of the State.

In both the Senate and House bills were introduced to pay solicitors a salary of \$2,000 and no other compensation. Senator Ray put in a bill that would legalize an 8 per cent rate of interest when agreed upon by the parties.

Speaker Graham introduced a bill to put Henry H. Howard, one of the Merrimac survivors on the pension roll, fourth class and pay him \$25. He was gunner's mate on the famous ironclad.

Legislators are slow to act upon a bill to guarantee deposits in State banks, but the anti-trust bill with a sharp tooth seems in favor.

Bills were offered in the Senate on Thursday:

**Manning—Repeal** municipal government. This is the bill prepared by the Raleigh Good Government League and designed to have a sort of "Watts law" application to cities and towns of the State having 5,000 or more population; providing for a mayor and four councilmen to be elected and they to have the whole direction of the municipal affairs, being subject to removal from office through vote of the people. The act is to apply to any city only after it has been adopted by vote of the people.

**Manning—Repeal** 305, Revisal, relating to the discharge of witnesses before the grand jury and the certificates of attendance filed.

**Bassett—Provide** better protection of earnings of railroad employes and others engaged in interstate business and to assure to them the benefit of the exemption laws of the State relating to personal property.

The two following bills passed their final reading:

**Amend** Sec. 3241, Revisal, relating to witnesses before the grand jury, providing that witnesses shall not be subpoenaed to appear upon a bill of indictment earlier than the second or third day of the court, saving to counties much of the immense cost of the attendance of witnesses.

The bill carrying the appropriations for the State School for the Blind came from the committee on State School for the Blind with favorable report and was referred to the committee on appropriations. It carries appropriations of \$22,343 for 1909 and \$22,000 for 1910; an annual appropriation of \$65,000 for maintenance and \$100 a month for the school library.

The minority report of the Senate judiciary committee reporting the Manning bill enlarging the powers of the Attorney General was read and Senator Manning announced that he would reserve the right to call up the bill on its passage later.

A bill was offered by Senator Ormond (by request)—Provide for the creation and organization of the new County of Mosely out of territory taken from Lenoir, Wayne and Greene if the voters in the territory so elect.

The following bills were introduced in the House:

**Majette—Amend** Sec. 1747, Revisal, to extend the time for registering grants.

**Gordon—Establish** lien upon wearing apparel in favor of laundries.

**Gordon—Establish** State Library commission.

**Poole—Amend** Sec. 924, Revisal, relative to the papers of the clerk of Superior Court in paying out funds.

**Butler** (by request)—Allow two years to bring actions against telegraph companies.

**Cox, of Anson—Amend** Chap. 273, Laws of 1907, for the relief of cer-

tain Confederate soldiers, sailors and widows.

**Graham—Repeal** Chap. 89, Laws of 1907, relating to additional cause of divorce.

**Graham—Expedite** the trial of capital cases and reduce the cost by enabling courts to summon special venire from some adjoining county. Much discussion upon the divorce bill was engaged in. It arises from a bill to amend the present law to allow divorces in cases of ten years absence if there are no children.

The bill offered would allow divorce if children are more than 21 years old. The bill may have the effect to repeal the law allowing divorce on ground of absence at all.

The following bills passed their final reading:

**State** bill to amend Revisal relating to powers and duties of county commissioners, allowing the establishment when necessary of tuberculosis dispensaries and sanatoriums.

To repeal Chap. 202, Laws of 1907, as to fees of officials of Johnston county.

**Amend** Revisal relative to liability of counties in criminal actions.

**Resolution** to print 500 copies of memorial of North Carolina Library Association for fireproof building.

In the Senate Friday Senator Ormond offered a bill to put solicitors of the State on salaries of \$2,500 each instead of the fees now allowed.

**Hankins: Joint** resolution to provide more adequate postoffice facilities for the General Assembly.

**Hankins: Memorial** from the North Carolina Library Association for the erection of a fireproof State library building.

**Hankins: Memorial** from the North Carolina Society, Daughters of the Revolution, relative to the erection of a fireproof library building.

Among the bills passed was a joint resolution for paying the expenses of Dr. Gordon and Dr. Bolton, members of the Legislature who represented the Assembly at the State tuberculosis convention at Charlotte recently.

There was read by Senator Doekery a "pome" by ex-Senator N. A. McLean of Robeson, in answer to the resolution by Senator Doekery that Mr. McLean and others be sent a copy of the Lockhart bill to inject sub-section "A" into the anti-trust act. There was a jocular vote.

The senate passed a bill to incorporate board of publication, North Carolina Methodist Conference.

Senator Barringer introduced a bill to fix the privileges of owners of mileage books.

In the House Cox, of Wake, presented a memorial from the Ladies' Memorial Association for the General Assembly to provide for a fireproof building for the State library.

**Poole** offered a bill to amend Sec. 3354, Revisal, relative to punishment for seduction so that there can be punishment even after marriage in the event there is desertion within five years after marriage.

**Poole: Amend** Sec. 5111, Revisal, relative to the inheritance tax.

**Cox, of Wake: Joint** resolution to pay the expenses of the inaugural committee.

**Cox, of Wake: Make** the salary of the assistant Supreme Court librarian \$30 instead of \$15 a month.

**Currie: Amend** Sec. 87, Revisal, and abolish the crop pest commission, putting its duties in the hands of the State board of agriculture.

**Currie: Regulate** the registration and sale of concentrated feed stuffs.

**Currie: Regulate** the sale of stock foods and medicinal powders for live stock.

**Gordon: To** validate deeds and instruments heretofore executed by corporations.

**Underwood: Amend** 2235, Revisal, so as to allow three days of grace on bills payable at sight.

**Connor: Fix** liability of banks to depositors for forged or raised checks. Depositor must notify the bank within three months of receiving the canceled check.

**Connor: Punish** derogatory statements concerning banks and to prevent runs on banks.

**Connor: Amend** Act of 1907 relating to the salary of the assistant librarian of the Supreme Court.

**Weaver: Regulate** the use of business names.

**Grant: Protect** labor from certain government employes.

**Rodwell: Relative** to property of insane persons discharged from asylums.

**Morton: Joint** resolution to provide more lights in corridors and rotunda of Capitol.

The Senate lacked a chorus on Saturday.

In the House many bills were passed of a private nature. Chief among bills of general interest presented were:

**Currie: Amend** Revisal 3945 and relieve manufacturers of fertilizers of unnecessary requirements.

**Currie: Entitle** sale of test farms by boards of agriculture.

**Currie: Establish** State highway commission.

## ELIHU ROOT TO BE A WITNESS

### 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," jocularly 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-Sharpe Trial Closes Without the Addition of a Single Juror and the List Remains at Six.

Nashville, Tenn., Special.—The third day of the Cooper-Sharpe 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 talesmen 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 powerfully 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, By able.—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 150 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.

Seranton, Pa., Special.—M. 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.

## Three Killed in Explosion.

Johnstown, Pa., Special.—Three children between three and four years old were killed, another, aged five, was severely burned, and two women, mothers of the little ones, were painfully injured at Stoughton, Somerset county, when the children touched a match to a keg of powder to see it blaze. All the dead and injured are foreigners. Their home was almost demolished by the explosion.

## Jones Elected Chief Justice.

Columbia, 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.

## MID-OCEAN 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 Feat in History of Wireless Telegraphy—Four Are Killed.

New York, Special.—Grave anxiety pervaded here Saturday and Saturday 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 761 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 from the adjacent seas the White Star line Baltic, the French steamer La Lorraine, the Currunder Lucania and the revenue cutters Achusnet 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 rescue.

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 west-bound steamer lanes here are that distance apart.

The collision, being amidship, 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 signalling 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 25th.

Lincoln's Native County Water Dry.

Hodgenville, Ky., Special.—In a local option election Lenoir county, in which Abraham Lincoln was born nearly 300 years ago, voted "dry" by a majority of 1,083, the vote being more than 4 to 1 against liquor.