

devastation which the raiders had wrought on the rookery been known at this time, none of the boats would have been permitted to return to the schooner.

The boat which was compelled to return to shore contained, six men, one of whom was dead and one wounded. The body of one man, who had evidently fallen overboard when he was shot, floated off and was not picked up by the boats. It is believed that the body of a third was thrown overboard when the boats reached the schooner. The boats of the raiding flotilla were of the same general character as those previously captured. . . .

Upon making an examination of the rookeries at the point where the small boats were first seen, the Government agents discovered that the raiders had practically wiped out of existence one section of a breeding rookery. More than 183 seals had been killed. Of this number, 120 had been skinned and the skins loaded into the boats. It was apparent that the raiders had been frightened away in the midst of their raid, because 63 dead and wounded seals, some partially skinned and other untouched, were found.

I arrived at St. Paul Island in company with Hon. George M. Bowers, Commissioner of Fisheries, on the afternoon of July 20, 1906, on the revenue cutter *McCulloch*, Capt. J.C. Cantwell commanding. The Government agents and the natives were very anxious to get rid of the [twelve<sup>32</sup>] prisoners and they were at once turned over to the *McCulloch*, which proceeded to Unalaska. At that place the ten uninjured men were turned over to the deputy United States marshal, and the wounded men, who had been placed under the care of Dr. T.B. McClintic, were retained on the cutter.

The prisoners were again taken on board the cutter on July 31 and carried from Unalaska to Kodiak, where a preliminary hearing was had before United States Commissioner Fred D. Kelsey. As a result of this hearing they were held to the grand jury and were turned over to the custody of United States Marshal L.L. Bowers, at Kodiak, for delivery at Valdez. Chief Agent W.I. Lembkey and the native witnesses then proceeded to Valdez [aboard the mail steamer *Dora*<sup>33</sup>].<sup>34</sup>

Five of the prisoners pleaded guilty of having killed seals. Six others were convicted of an attempt to kill seals, while the remaining prisoner, after a trial in which the jury failed to agree, pleaded guilty to the charge of killing seals, and all were sentenced by United States District Judge Royal A. Gunnison to three months' imprisonment in the United States jail at Valdez. At the expiration of their sentences all the prisoners were deported to Japan.<sup>35</sup>

President Theodore Roosevelt said in his message to the beginning of the second session of the 59th Congress (December 1906), concerning the investigation in the Seal Islands, "I commend your attention to the report by Mr. Sims, Solicitor of the Department of Commerce and Labor, on this subject."<sup>36</sup>

### SLOSS, LEON (1858-1920)

*General Agent and Superintendent, Alaska Commercial Company, St. Paul Island, 1882-1885*

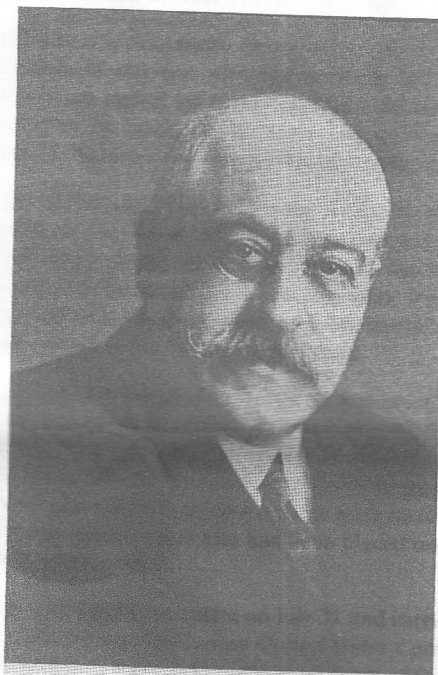
*President, Alaska Commercial Company, 1918-1920*

#### Fur-Seal Arbitration Deposition

Leon Sloss deposed for the Tribunal of Arbitration on May 7, 1892, before Notary Public Clement Bennett at San Francisco, California. The following is an excerpt from his deposition.

I am 33 years of age, a native of California, and a resident of San Francisco, California. I was for several years a director of the Alaska Commercial Company, and a member of the partnership of Louis Sloss & Co., and have been engaged for the past fifteen years in dealing in wools, hides, and fur skins, but have now no interest in seals or sealeries. I was superintendent *pro tempore* of the sealeries of Alaska in the interim from 1882 to 1885, inclusive, during the illness of H.H. McIntyre, the regular superintendent, and spent the sealing season of those three years on the Pribilof Islands in the personal management of the business. I am, therefore, by reason of this service and of my active employment at all other times in the office of the Alaska Commercial Company from 1877 to this date, acquainted with every aspect of the business.<sup>37</sup>

*Leon Sloss, President of the Alaska Commercial Company, 1918-20. (Samuel P. Johnston, Alaska Commercial Company 1868-1940, A More or Less "Documented" History, Evidenced by Papers from Governmental Files and Books; By Old Letters from Company Files; By Newspaper Articles; By Memories of Officials and Employes [sic] of Long Standing.)*



LEON SLOSS  
President 1918-1920

## SMITH, FRANK HOLMES (1879-1938)

*Physician, St. George Island, 1906-1908*

### Genealogy

Frank Holmes Smith, the son of Demetrious M. and Helen B. Smith, was born on October 29, 1879, in Lake City, Minnesota. Frank married Dolores Fisher, a nursing student from San Francisco, in 1911 in San Jose, California. They had one son, Harry F. Smith, born in 1912, who became a medical student at Rochester University, Rochester, New York.

### Biographical Sketch

Frank Holmes Smith graduated from Stanford University and Cooper Medical College (later Stanford Medical College). After his work in the Pribilof Islands, he settled and opened his medical practice in San Bruno, San Mateo County, California. He was murdered by a patient on February 19, 1938, at his medical office in San Bruno.<sup>38</sup>



*Dr. Frank Holmes Smith. (San Mateo Times, San Mateo, California, February 21, 1938, 1.)*