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INCREASE OF RATES

Interstate Commission to Consider Their Reasonableness.

Action of Cincinnati Shippers Appealing to President Induces This Course—Cites Judge Speer's Ruling in Southern Railway Case.

The decision of the interstate commission that it would consider the reasonableness of rates of notice of increases by the shippers and prior to their filing of protests is regarded as of widespread importance. Following closely upon the action of Cincinnati shippers appealing to the president to induce the commission to take this course, it is generally believed here that the suggestion calling for the statement comes from President Roosevelt. Chairman Knapp said that the law contemplated investigation of the reasonableness of rates by the commission after they have become effective, but he thought the commission might decide that the increase is effective after notice has been given by a carrier and before the new rate actually goes into effect. The commission's statement takes that view of its powers. There is much interest in the decision by Judge Speer of the Southern judicial district of Georgia granting a preliminary injunction restraining the Atlantic Coast Line, the Louisville and Nashville, the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis, the Cincinnati, New Orleans and Texas and the Southern Railway companies from putting into effect on Aug. 1 the increased rates on shipments of staple products from western to southern points. In 1933 Judge Speer took the same course in relation to the increase of 2 cents per 100 pounds on yellow pine by the Southern Railway and southeastern carriers, including the Southeastern Freight association. The advance was on rates from Georgia and Chattanooga to Cincinnati and other points on the Ohio river. The increase was promulgated by the carriers to take effect April 15, 1930, and would have become effective except for the temporary injunction granted by Judge Speer April 14. On May 16 the court dissolved the temporary injunction and withheld further action until the case could be determined by the interstate commerce commission. The court placed the carriers under bond to refund the overcharge should the commission decide that its increased rate was unreasonable and the new rate was then allowed to go into effect. The commission deciding in favor of the complainants, the railroads refused to obey their order and Judge Speer sustained the commission's decision and enforced its order favoring the lower rate.

TWENTY-FIVE DEAD IN TUNNEL

Workmen's Tools Tap River and Shaft Is Filled With Water.

There was a frightful accident in the Loetschberg tunnel, in the Bernese Alps, which resulted in the death of twenty-five workmen.

The men were drilling inside the tunnel. Without warning their tools pierced the wall that separated them from a subterranean river or lake, the existence of which was not known. The wall gave way with a crash and a torrent of water and mud rushed into the tunnel and filled it. All the men were drowned. They were Italians.

President to Greet Athletes.

President Roosevelt, in a message to the American commissioner of the Olympic games in London, expressed a desire to shake hands with every one of the men whose feats placed the flag of the United States at the head of the colors of all nations in the athletic games which ended Saturday. The president will go to New York when the victorious American team arrives there and take part in the ovation which is planned in their honor. He will invite the men to come to Oyster Bay so that he may meet and talk with them.

Cotton Growers Hold Crop.

That farmers of Mississippi have determined to hold cotton off the market is evidenced by many surface indications, although the meetings are secret and members give out nothing for publication that has not been strictly censored. The union is thoroughly equipped for a practical test. Its membership now includes a large majority of the farmers of the state. Warehouses have been established in almost every community and they now have close to 150 to 200 in which cotton may be stored to await the caprices of the market.

Too Crafty for White Speculators.

Members of the five civilized tribes of Oklahoma, whose land was thrown open to white settlement at midnight Sunday, proved too crafty for some of the white speculators. The allottees refused to sell their land except at prices nearly double what they had at first agreed to take.

Cruiser Ordered to Honduran Port.

The cruiser Milwaukee has been ordered to Amalapa, a port on the coast of Honduras, to relieve the cruiser Albany. The Milwaukee is now at Honolulu and will proceed without delay to Honduras. The Albany will proceed to San Diego, Cal.

San Joaquin Levee Breaks.

Two hundred feet of the San Joaquin levee gave way and Jersey island, comprising 1,900 acres, including 300 acres of celery, was flooded. Property loss is estimated at \$5,000,000.

TO TEST WAR BALLOONS

Captain Baldwin Will Make Flights With Military Airship at Fort Meyer.

The tests by the United States army at Fort Meyer of various military flying machines will begin next week with the flights of Captain Thomas S. Baldwin. Military experts, who have observed the development of the war type of balloons, are becoming more and more convinced that in the future the rating of nations as world powers will not be based on the size of their standing armies or naval strength, but on the efficiency of their aerial fleets. England, France and Germany are vying with each other for supremacy of the aerial sea.

France and Germany are even further advanced than Great Britain and the work of the French dirigible army balloons and Count Zeppelin's military dirigibles in Germany are evidences of what these two countries are doing. Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Russia, Hungary and Japan are showing an activity that presages the possession in the near future of fleets of military airships in conjunction with the aerostatic corps which nearly all of them have established as a branch of their armies.

While these evidences of activity in the application of aerostatics in modern warfare would seem to indicate that the value of ballooning in warfare had but recently been recognized, the records show that balloons were used in the Franco-Prussian war, when Paris was cut off from the world by German troops and advantage was taken of aerial means of communication which the German army was powerless to prevent. During this siege sixty-four balloons flew out of Paris. The most recent use of balloons in warfare was their use by the Russians in the war with Japan, when balloons were employed for the first time by the navy and were so successful that the Russian government now has a fully equipped floating balloon park as an adjunct to her navy.

UPDIKE SUES FOR ELEVATION

Files Charge With Interstate Commerce Commission for Allowance.

Following the now famous Peavey elevator decision by the interstate commerce commission, wherein they reversed a former decision which allowed an "elevator" charge of not more than 3/4-cent per bushel, and then held there should in the future be no elevator allowances, there have been a number of charges filed against the Union Pacific railroad demanding reparation upon the ground that unlawful discrimination in the matter of elevator charges has been made.

The latest complaint against the Union Pacific comes from the Updike Grain company and shows that from July, 1906, to June 1, 1907, it transferred to the Union Pacific at its elevator at South Omaha and became entitled to receive from the Union Pacific elevation allowance on 1,368 cars containing in aggregate 77,161,140 pounds and on which elevation allowance would amount to a charge of \$9,845 against the Union Pacific. Reparation in this amount is demanded by the Updike company.

OTTAWA UNIVERSITY GIFT

Friends of School Working to Raise \$100,000 Endowment.

Dr. S. E. Price, president of Ottawa university, was in Wichita in the interests of that institution. Ottawa university is at present engaged in a canvass of the state to raise \$75,000 for the endowment fund, as a result of an agreement of John D. Rockefeller to give \$25,000 to the school on the condition that the friends of the school in Kansas contribute three times that amount. Dr. Price was in conference with the Rev. G. W. Cassidy and other Baptists of Wichita with reference to this campaign and reported encouraging progress in the effort which the school is making.

Rival of the Standard Oil.

The C. O. D. Webster Refining Co., recently established at Okmulgee by C. D. Webster, veteran independent refiner of Kansas and for many years the only one able to stand out against the Standard, has changed its name to the Tulsa Refining company, with headquarters in West Tulsa, and has filed amended articles of incorporation. The new company is capitalized at \$100,000.

Rustlers Running Off Cattle.

That there is a band of cattle rustlers operating in central and northern Wyoming is the belief of every ranchman. During the past few months scores of cattle and horses have mysteriously disappeared. There has never been any definite clue as to the manner in which they disappeared, but it has always been supposed they were run off by rustlers. Ranchmen are now thoroughly aroused by recent depredations and will make an investigation trying to learn if possible the identity of the thieves.

Judge Hanford Issues Injunction.

Judge Hanford issued a temporary injunction restraining the striking longshoremen from interfering with the business of the Alaska Steamship company and the Alaska Pacific Steamship company or the men they have employed in the moving of freight to and from vessels in the harbor.

Russian Cruiser Runs Aground.

The Russian cruiser Almaz, with Premier Stolypin on board, went aground Sunday night near Glockstadt, a seaport about thirty miles from Hamburg. Tugs were sent to her assistance and she was floated without injury.

ASK PRESIDENT TO ACT

Cincinnati Shippers Want Railroads Cited for Contempt.

Urge Chief Executive to Enforce Decree Against Missouri Pacific and Rock Island—Chicago Shippers Seek Another Conference.

Brushing aside all intermediate processes and modes of action, the Receivers' and Shippers' association of Cincinnati has carried its war against a general increase in railway freight rates directly to the president of the United States. In general effect, a communication forwarded to President Roosevelt asks the chief executive whether or not he intends to enforce a decree issued some years ago against certain railroads. If so, he is asked to at once cause the attorney general to bring proceedings for contempt against the Missouri Pacific railway and the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad. Denying that politics had anything to do with the letter at this time, it is explained that because of the fact that certain general increases in freight rates are to become effective Aug. 1 by certain roads, prompt and positive action became necessary. In conclusion, the letter says: "This association stands for a square deal for common carriers. It believes that their property rights should be protected the same as the property rights of individuals, but we are unalterably opposed to any policy of the carriers which has for its purpose the ignoring of our courts and the placing of themselves above the laws of the land. If they expect the protection of the laws and the courts they must show a wholesome regard for the law and respect the decrees of the courts. If the Missouri Pacific and Rock Island deliberately ignore this solemn mandate of the courts and continue in an unlawful manner to burden trade and commerce among the states by continually increasing rates, the question arises:

"Is there no power in this land sufficiently strong to reach railroad companies that recklessly brush aside the decrees of our courts?"

"This association believes you will in the carrying out of your policy for the strict enforcement of the law see to it that these two railroad companies are obliged in the future to observe this decree."

MAIL POUCH THIEF CAUGHT

Charles Savage, a Negro, Under Arrest at Kansas City.

Charles Savage, negro, was arrested by postoffice authorities, charged with stealing a mail pouch in the Kansas City union station on June 6 last and containing \$50,000, being sent from Los Angeles to a New York City bank. The inspectors assert that they have positive evidence against Savage and declare their belief that he has buried the money, intending to recover it after his release from the penitentiary.

Savage was taken into custody a few hours after he returned to the city. After several hours' sweating, which brought no confession, Savage was arraigned before the United States commissioner and formally charged with stealing the valuable mail pouch on June 6. He pleaded not guilty and in default of bail was bound over to the November term of federal court.

EBERHARD IS CAPTURED

Confessed Slayer of His Aunt Caught Near Paterson.

Drawn back to the scene of his crime by a force he could not resist, August Eberhard, the self-confessed murderer of his aunt, Mrs. Ottilie Eberhard, a Viennese widow, whom he lured to a lonely spot in New Jersey a few days ago and shot to death, was caught near Paterson, N. J., and is a prisoner in the Hackensack jail.

The reason Eberhard gave for committing the crime was that he was in love with a Hackensack girl, and that he needed the money to marry her. Knowing that his aunt had \$2,500, he plotted to kill her. He says he also intended to kill his pretty cousin, Ottilie Eberhard, to whom he was engaged, so nothing would stand in the way of the marriage to the Hackensack girl.

Shippers Ask Another Conference.

Shipping interests of the country, represented by a committee appointed at a general conference of shippers held recently in Chicago, decided at a meeting here to ask the presidents of eastern railroads to meet them to discuss the proposed increase in freight rates. It was the opinion of the committeemen that before beginning a fight against the increase it would be wise to bring about such a meeting with the railroad officials, if possible, at the same time asking them to put no advances into effect until after the conference had been held. W. C. Brown, senior vice president of the New York Central lines, is said to have expressed a willingness to comply with the request.

Hughes Will Accept Renomination.

Governor Hughes of New York has issued a statement the effect of which is that he is willing to waive the personal reasons which have impelled him to say privately that he could not consider another term as governor, and, if renominated, will accept and stand for re-election.

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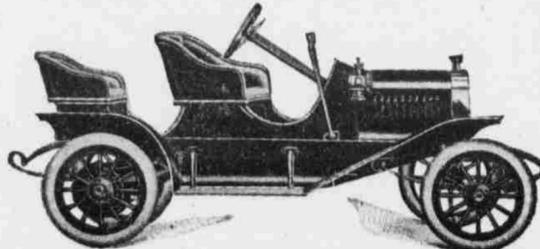
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