

STRICTER CURB IS URGED BY PROBERS ON THE PHONE MONOPOLY IN N. Y. STATE

Greater Power Over Rates and Securities to Be Sought by Amending Law.

WOULD SET STANDARD.

Want Connections With All Lines in State Made Mandatory.

In addition to working out a schedule of reduced telephone rates for New York City the Foley Legislative Committee to-day forwarded to the Legislature a report recommending changes in the Public Service law, designed to supervise and regulate more strictly the New York Telephone Company.

The committee finds that the telephone service is practically a monopoly, and as such should be held rigidly within bounds of law.

Dealing with this phase of the case the report says:

"The monopolistic character of the New York Telephone Company in the State prevents the regulation of charges and maintenance of service by competition; therefore, for the protection of the public, it is necessary to give the Public Service Commission greater authority than it now possesses over issues of securities, regulation of rates, supervision of the physical condition of property and conduct of the business.

"Telephone service is developing more and more into a monopoly. Universal service is demanded by the public. If such monopoly is to be permitted, then it must be made subject to rigid supervision and regulation by the State."

The committee recommends giving the Public Service Commission power to compel connections between Bell and other telephone companies, but only when the standards of construction and equipment are such as to insure good service.

The commission should have authority to fix standards and require reconstruction of lines in accordance with the committee's recommendations.

Control over issue of telephone company securities by the Public Service Commission and various changes are recommended.

The up-State Public Service Commission comes to New York to-morrow to endeavor to settle definitely the reduced rate schedule.

There are three reports and sets of figures to be harmonized—the Foley Committee's reductions worked out by Prof. Bemis, the telephone company's valuation report and the results figured out by the committee's own experts, which will be announced to-morrow.

According to advance information there will be no serious difficulty in all parties compromising on a 5-cent per call rate and elimination of toll rates between Manhattan and Brooklyn. But the telephone company will vigorously oppose three factors in the Bemis report:

1. Use of the original cost rule in determining the value of the company's plant. The objection to this is more upon the method than upon the result, as the company does not want a precedent in valuation established to embarrass it in future litigation.

2. Reduction in the charge of \$6 per year for extension telephones. This rate is the same throughout the country and if a cut is made here it will necessitate reductions in every State.

3. Too heavy cuts in revenue, which might embarrass the company in its future financing.

Both telephone company and Foley committee to-day expressed willingness to try to get together with the Public Service Commission as arbiter so as to devote attention to the next big contest over the new regulations of the monopoly recommended by the committee.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Abolition of the Navy Plucking Board, as provided in the Naval Bill by the House, was approved to-day by the Senate.

Senator Newlands introduced a bill to-day to empower the Interstate Commerce Commission to examine all papers of a common carrier, including correspondence. It would amend the law to meet the Supreme Court's decision that the commission did not have power to inspect the correspondence of the Louisville and Nashville.

Cash dividends, paid after March 1, 1913, constitute taxable income when received and should be included in the income tax returns of individuals whose total income is more than \$20,000, according to a ruling to-day by Commissioner of Internal Revenue Osborn.

Stock dividends declared in good faith and not to evade the Income Tax Law are held not to be subject to the tax.

Investigation of the last Senate elections in Alabama, California, Indiana, Kentucky and Nevada, as well as Pennsylvania and Illinois, was proposed to a Senate committee to-day by Senator Hristov. The committee once decided not to investigate and later voted not to change its decision.

HALT DANISH LINER IN BAY.

German Reservists Reported Taken Off the Frederick VIII.

The Danish steamer Frederick VIII, outward bound for Copenhagen, was held up off quarantine last night, while Passenger Agent Jacobson of the line went on board. The purpose of his visit was not made known.

The liner remained at anchor for almost two hours. Afterward it was reported that several German reservists had been taken off.

MISS DAVIS AND ISLAND CHAPLAIN "THICK AS TWINS"

Keeper at Boys' Reformatory Says He Was Told Rev. Bray Had "Big Pull."

"They're as thick as twins. Any time you want anything done go and see Dr. Bray, for he's got the biggest pull on the Island with the Commissioner."

The relationship between Correction Commissioner Katharine B. Davis and the Rev. Edward Bray, Protestant chaplain on Hart's Island, was described in these words by Keeper Joseph J. McGarvey at the trial of Overseer Martin J. Moore of the Boys' Reformatory before Miss Davis this morning.

Moore is charged with gross misconduct in office and insubordination, and specifically with the failure to report to his superior the beating of Louis Levine, an inmate, by Keeper Frank McConnell.

Keeper McGarvey, called as a witness by Overseer Moore, repeated under oath the conversation he alleges took place between himself and John Kelly, a hospital helper with a grievance against Moore.

"We're going to get this fellow, Moore," McGarvey swore Kelly told him last September. "And we're going to do it with the aid of the chaplain, Mr. Bray. He and Miss Davis are as thick as two peas in a pod. He comes over to the Island every Thursday, talks to the boys, makes notes of their complaints against the officials and takes them back to the Commissioner in black and white."

"And as for Moore," McGarvey testified Kelly told him, "he's so crooked he can't lie straight in bed. We have no use for him—he's always bobbing up unexpectedly. He's as likely to walk in on you in the middle of the night as in the middle of the day."

Dr. William Ebling, now resident physician of the Hart's Island Reformatory, almost upset Miss Davis and her jury hearing the case when he coolly described how he and Dr. Maurice Levy, the former resident physician, beat one of the inmates with a club to determine his sanity.

"Dr. Levy and I had a debate about the boy—his name escapes me, but he now is in Matteawan—as to his mental condition. We disagreed as to his sanity, so we decided to beat him in order to find out whether he was shamming."

"I believe in corporal punishment," said Dr. Ebling, "but I don't like to do it myself. So I asked Dr. Levy to beat the boy. He did so with a stick."

"Why do you believe in corporal punishment?" asked Miss Davis.

"I think it is far more humane to inflict corporal punishment than to put a lad in the cooler for twenty-four hours," he declared. Dr. Ebling admitted that although he had been in the Correction Department for a year he had not learned until last week that the infliction of corporal punishment in the local institutions is a violation of the rules.

Capt. James Dillon, military instructor at the Reformatory, testified that until a year ago it was a common occurrence for many of the keepers to be in an almost continuous state of intoxication.

In the Spring a Young Maid's Fancy Turns to Thoughts of Hats; New Creations Ready



If one is to judge by the weather we have been having of late, spring is surely here, and while the young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love, the maid, in ardent seriousness turns her thoughts toward her new spring bonnet. There seems to be a sort of sentiment about choosing this first spring hat which is not noticeable at any other season of the year. Though we may acquire numerous other hats of various sorts as the summer advances, we somehow cling to our first love till the cool days of fall demand a new one.

Some of the creations put out by the shops this season are so saucy and frivolous as to tempt seriously the practical mind which most of us are carrying around with us these days. Last summer witnessed the chiffon hat, but this spring it appears in renewed attractiveness. Not always in the crown of chiffon, but the usually broad brim of it is decorated with appliqued flowers of various sorts. One very pretty effect was obtained by a flower design cut out of cretonne, and veiled with a thickness of chiffon.

Grosgrain ribbon has won favor over every other sort, and it provides some new effects in trimming. By interlacing lengths of one inch wide ribbon, a checked design is formed, which makes a pretty crown piece. Checks, by the way, having received the approval of daytime frocks, venture to gain a showing on hats of the season. Indeed I have seen entire hats of checked silk which are really delightful when worn with a suit or frock of simple lines and sombre color. The checks vary from one half to one inch square. The little hat I have shown at the left has a stove-pipe crown, draped with a black and white checked ribbon band, and decorated with a gay cluster of fruit, the twigs of which aspire above the crown.

At the right is pictured a broad brimmed hat of graceful lines which pokes slightly up in the front, down on each side and up higher in the back. A wired bow of velvet ribbon is the significant trimming and coquettish it is indeed.

On this sketch is also shown a new neck arrangement. A wide plaiting follows the high neck line in front to a V in back, thus forming a frame to the face while allowing the new low hair arrangement to be undisturbed.

Bodies of Drowned Boys Found.

Searchers to-day found the bodies of Clarence Westerbe and Melia Vogel of Sayville, L. I., floating in Port Jefferson Harbor near the Belle Terre pier. With James Vogel they had been operating a chain of fish nets in the harbor. James Vogel went to the city with the catch Wednesday. On his return he missed the other boys; their dory was found overturned in the harbor. He summoned their fathers from Sayville and a systematic search was organized. The boys were bundled in very heavy clothing, which apparently prevented them from saving themselves.

OUT OF BANKRUPTCY.

Hollins Pays His Debts After Failing for \$5,000,000.

Upon the petition of attorneys for Harry B. Hollins, head of the defunct banking firm of H. B. Hollins & Co., Federal District Judge Mayer to-day dismissed the petition in bankruptcy filed against Hollins in 1913, when his liabilities were stated at more than \$5,000,000.

The Hollins firm is liquidating its liabilities by means of the composition plan recently approved by the United States Courts and Hollins says he has settled all his personal debts. Acting on this information, Judge Mayer discharged the receiver.

Among the chief creditors named against Hollins in the petition were the estate of J. P. Morgan, Consuelo Dowager Duchess of Manchester, and W. K. Vanderbilt. His personal liabilities were given as \$1,111,000. He had assets of \$500,000, but he turned them in to help pay up the debts of the banking firm.

Jail for Selling Impure Milk.

For selling impure milk Charles Dahl, a dairyman at Jerome Street and Workman Avenue, East New York, to-day was sentenced to sixty days in prison by Justices McInerney, Foraker and O'Keefe in Special Sessions, Brooklyn. The prison sentence was imposed because Dahl had been convicted before of mixing water with his milk and he received a warning that another conviction would mean a jail sentence.

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