

WARNING TO RAILROADS SOUNDED BY CLEMENTS.

Commerce Commissioner Calls Freight Rate Increase Illegal.

Washington, July 17.—In the opinion of Judge C. Clements, a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission, the proposed general increase of freight rates discussed in New York yesterday by the presidents of many of the Eastern railroads in the Trunk Line Association would constitute a flagrant violation of the Sherman anti-trust law and would render all the railroads concerned liable to severe penalties. Mr. Clements explained that the Interstate Commerce Commission as a commission is not at all interested in the Sherman anti-trust law, the execution of which is entrusted to the Department of Justice, but he expressed his opinion as a lawyer and cited a recent instance where the Supreme Court had so decided. "It is the province of the Interstate Commerce Commission," said Mr. Clements, "to decide on the reasonableness of the increase in freight rates, but it has no legal authority to prosecute under the anti-trust law. Our duty would be simply to render a decision as to the necessity for an increase of rates, and we would not be called to pass on the methods by which one road or any number of roads agreed to make the increase. The latter question would be decided by the Department of Justice after we had submitted our records, and after that department had taken its own testimony. However, as a lawyer, I am willing to hazard the opinion that such an increase of rates as was contemplated by the Eastern railroads at their meeting yesterday in New York would be in direct violation of the anti-trust law. "When practically all the Eastern roads, and for that matter the roads of the country, by a mutual agreement raise rates it is to my mind a procedure which brings them under that clause of the anti-trust law which prevents 'poolings' and 'fiscal combinations.' "Whether or not there is any necessity now for an increase of rates I am not prepared to say. If the increase should come, the commission will have ample time to decide that point. I am convinced, however, that the railroads will give the anti-trust law careful consideration before they attempt a general increase of rates. "A similar case came up in Georgia some time ago during some lumber hearings. Federal Judge Spear decided that the railroads had formed an illegal combination in increasing the rates, and the Supreme Court affirmed the decision."

SOUTHEASTERN ADVANCE.

Railroads Take Action at Louisville Meeting.

Louisville, July 17.—It was decided that freight rates should be advanced in the territory of the Southeastern Freight Association and the Southeastern Mississippi Valley Association, which takes in all the territory south of the Ohio River and east of the Mississippi River, at the meeting of the executive officers of all of the railroad systems interested, which closed to-day. The advance, it is said, will be from 4 to 10 cents a hundred pounds, horizontally, to correspond with the advance decided on by the Southwestern Freight Association recently. The advance was decided upon after considerable opposition by certain railroad executives, who maintained that an advance of rates at the present time was impolitic, but this opposition was finally won over by the argument that to meet the various increased expenses an increase in rates was absolutely necessary. The clerical forces of the railroads interested are quartered in Louisville temporarily, working out the tariffs. It is considered probable that the tariffs will not be in shape for filing before August 1, and in accordance with the requirements of the Interstate Commerce Commission, compelling rates to be filed thirty days prior to becoming effective, the new rates will not be in force until September 1.

HILL FOR RATE INCREASE.

President Harahan Also Says Roads Must Make More Money.

James J. Hill agrees with his old rival, E. H. Harriman, that railroad freight rates should be increased. Mr. Hill returned to the financial district yesterday from a three weeks' fishing trip in Eastern Canada. He said: "Railroad rates must be advanced or the country will go up. If the railroads do not secure an advance in freight rates they will be unable to expand the \$200,000,000 or so a year for new rolling stock and facilities without which they must go behind. "The loss of this \$200,000,000 will be a loss to the manufacturers. The producer of raw material will feel it, so will the farmer who supplies the food, the lumberman who supplies the lumber, the mechanic, the laborer. It will be felt by the people generally. "This \$200,000,000 of direct expenditure by the railroads is enormous if followed in all its ramifications. Compared to it a moderate advance in rates is a mere bagatelle. The railroads have blazed the way of development. By their large expenditures they have given business and prosperity to the manufacturers and the people. "The interests of the railroads and the manufacturers and people are closely related. If the railroads are to decay all else will decay with them. Wages should not be cut. Efficient labor is essential to successful operation. Railroad employees have peculiar responsibilities. They have to meet a hard test. They should get fair recompense. Cut wages 10 per cent—the man who got \$15 last week gets \$13.50 this week. It is the difference between meat and no meat. "Freight rates in this country are low beyond comparison. Receiving only one-half and even one-third of the rate received in European countries, the wages paid railroad employes here average 100 per cent higher than those paid in Europe. "The American railroad systems, created at a cost of one-half to one-fifth as much as systems of other countries, charge rates of one-half to one-third as great, carry nearly double the business a mile and pay twice the rate of wages. "Judged by results, perhaps the most conspicuous success achieved in the development of the United States is the American railway system, and probably no other industry founded by American enterprise can show a comparative record which is all the essentials of practical value so distant all comparisons. "E. H. Harriman, president of the Illinois Central, also arrived in town yesterday after a two months' stay abroad. He said he had not been in close touch with affairs in this country and knew nothing of the progress of the freight rate agitation beyond what he had gathered from the papers. He said railroad conditions here were critical. "One of three things must happen," he continued. "Rates will have to be raised, wages reduced or the volume of business increased." "He found that Europe was experiencing a recession in trade, although the decline had not been so acute; that, therefore, in the United States, "this country is a big factor in the foreign market."

FRANK ZOTTI ARRESTED BULGAR MAKES CHARGE.

Accused of Withholding Money Given Him to Send Abroad.

Charges made against Frank Zotti, the banker and steamship agent, by the Croats and Bulgars in Pennsylvania, whose business he handled, caused his arrest yesterday on a charge of grand larceny. Magistrate Corrigan held him in \$25,000 bail pending the further action of the District Attorney's office, and he spent the rest of the day in the Tombs. When Zotti's bank closed and a receiver was appointed by Judge Hough last Wednesday, charges were made that money given to Zotti to be forwarded to relatives of foreigners abroad never had been transmitted. The charge of grand larceny rests on one of these allegations. According to the affidavit on which he was held, "Mike" Ferlan, a Bulgar, working in the Pennsylvania mines, gave him \$225 to forward to his wife, Yelena, in Croatia, on April 16. Soon after this Ferlan went home and found that his wife had not received the money. He visited the relatives of friends living about his home town, and after he got back heard of so many similar incidents that his affidavit says that "he has been given to understand that the defendant had withheld other moneys amounting to more than \$100,000." If these charges are sustained it probably will be found that even a greater amount than this is involved. In addition to his banking business Zotti did much as a steamship agent, selling prepaid passages to immigrants who wanted to bring their relatives to this country. It has been a common practice for steamship agents of the unscrupulous sort to accept payment for these tickets and then to send worthless vouchers to the prospective immigrants. The Tribune exposed their workings about a year ago, although no complaint was made against Zotti at that time. Assistant District Attorney Appleton told Magistrate Corrigan that he had received complaints from more than two hundred persons who were willing to proceed against Zotti, and for this reason the magistrate, in the face of great objection from the prisoner's counsel, fixed the bail at \$25,000. Counsel for Zotti thought that \$1,000 would be more than ample, and denounced Mr. Appleton's request for the heavier bond as an outrage. The hearing on Ferlan's charges will be held this morning. Zotti said in court and afterward that the proceedings against him were part of a big conspiracy to ruin him. He told the reporters that last year he bought a steamship and intended to go into the ocean freight business. His enemies—Pittsburg men, he says—bought his men and induced them to commit barratry. He went on to say that these men had caused the appointment of a receiver for his bank by circulating stories that it was not solvent, and finally brought about his arrest.

SCHLIPPENBACH RETURNS New Consul General to Investigate Russian Steamship Agents.

Baron Schlippenbach, who arrived here yesterday to take up his work as Imperial Russian Consul General in New York City, as successor to Nicholas de Lodyginsky, who has resigned, said that among the first things he would do would be to look into the conditions prevailing among the private bankers and ticket agents who handle the money of Russian immigrants on the East Side. The baron was vice-consul here in 1894, and since that time has been consul in Chicago, where his attention to duty was such that he has not gone for a visit to his friends in Russia for four years. In talking of the protection of Russian immigrants from swindling ticket agents and self-proclaimed "private bankers," the consul general said: "It is a subject in which I am much interested and to which I have given a good deal of attention. I was the first person to ask at the postal convention in Washington several years ago for an international postal money order system between this country and Russia. The suggestion was adopted, I am glad to say, and it has saved thousands of dollars that immigrants send home, especially at Easter time. I heard of the laws passed by the New York Legislature last year to regulate the private bankers, and I was much pleased with them."

WOULD LYNCH PREACHER Mob of 1,000 Seeks Negro Who Killed Former New Yorker.

Hot Springs, Ark., July 17.—Albert Crawley, a visitor, was shot and instantly killed this afternoon by Clayton Jackson, a negro preacher and hotel cook. Jackson was arrested and is in jail. From papers found upon Crawley it appears he recently lived at No. 3850 Park avenue, New York City. Evidence shows Crawley engaged to chop wood at the hotel for a meal, and after doing considerable work asked for dinner and was informed by the negro that there was nothing left. An argument ensued and the shooting resulted. The negro claims Crawley advanced upon him with an axe. A mob of one thousand white men assembled at the jail late to-night to lynch Jackson. They were told Jackson had been spirited away.

MOths LEAD BABY TO DEATH.

The host of white winged moths that again appeared last evening caused the death of one child, Frank Stevens, three years old, who lived with his parents at No. 43 Lenox ave. The little boy stood at one of the rear windows of his parents' home, on the top floor of the house, last night, and jumped up and down when he saw the little moths flutter past the window. Finally the child, excited by the numbers of the moths that flew about the window, attracted by the light within, climbed up on the window sill, and before his parents could save him tumbled to the yard beneath. He was almost instantly killed.

NO LIQUOR "ADS" IN MAINE.

Boston, July 17.—An important decision has been handed down by the Maine Supreme Court in a recent case, which in effect reaffirms the constitutionality of the statute prohibiting the advertisements of intoxicating liquors in Maine publications. The case is that of the state against the J. P. Ross Publishing Company, and has been in the courts for six or seven years. It was prosecuted on complaint of the Maine Civil League and has attracted wide attention.

GAVE CUP OF COFFEE; GETS \$3,000.

Plymouth, Mass., July 17.—Three thousand dollars was the reward received to-day by Mrs. Harvey Bartlett for a cup of coffee given two years ago to a sick woman sitting in the coach of a train that had stopped at the station here. Mrs. Bartlett is a widow and works in the station lunch-room. Her benefactor is Mrs. E. Lilly, of New York. Mrs. Bartlett saw Mrs. Lilly in the coach and made her as comfortable as possible during the twenty minutes' wait. Quebec and all other R. R. tickets bet. New York and Albany accepted by the H. R. Day Line.—Adv.

Y. M. C. A. RELAY RACERS WHO CARRIED MESSAGE ACROSS CAYUGA LAKE.



TRANSFER OF TUBE IN LAKE. FRANK PARKER, FRANK RICH, ARTHUR ADAMS.

SACKING TABRIZ HOUSES.

Revolutionists Gain Full Control of Town.

Tabriz, July 17.—The revolutionists have routed Rachin Khan's horsemen, who are out of ammunition and have fled to the hills. The fate of Rachin Khan, who was in command of the troops by the Shah's orders, is unknown. The revolutionists have gained full control of the town and are sacking the houses of the officials. London, July 17.—A special dispatch to "The Times" from Tabriz says that a sudden and unexpected change took place in the barometer last night. The elders in all quarters of the town, except one which is devoted to the Shah's cause, agreed on concerted action against the government forces, and this morning, amid the greatest excitement, a great crowd of citizens serged to Rachin Khan's headquarters. Without waiting to parley, Rachin Khan withdrew his forces to the suburban plantations which he occupied prior to entering the town, five days ago. The crowd immediately rushed for the houses of the Shah's richest supporters and completely looted six or seven of these, including the residence of the Minister of Finance. Many of Rachin Khan's horsemen were isolated in the town and killed and the majority of the Shah's infantry melted into civilians. Unless Rachin Khan's move has some ulterior motive, it would appear that the Shah's authority is completely at a discount and the future a riddle.

CRITICISM OF GOMPERS.

John Mulholland Points Out Disruption of Knights of Labor.

Toledo, Ohio, July 17.—"Gompers, I believe, has acted hastily, if not unwisely, in supporting Bryan," said John Mulholland, former president of the International Allied Metal Mechanics, to-night. "No labor leader has the right or power to commit labor to any political party. Gompers and his colleagues had an undisputed right to act as a committee to present to all political party conventions the different planks demanded by labor and ask that they be incorporated in the platforms of those parties. After all the parties had held their conventions, official reports should have been made to labor, setting forth the facts, then allowing the labor organization to take such action as they deem advisable in the matter. "Gompers seems to think he owns all labor unions, body and soul. He will find he cannot deliver the goods. We have minds of our own and will vote as we please. It is the unwise action of the leaders of the old Knights of Labor in their attempt to tie that movement to political parties without their consent that caused the disruption of that organization. Let us hope the Federation of Labor will escape that fate. "Gompers' attitude is only too well known to laboring men, who remember the broken promises of the Democratic party."

GOMPERS DENIES MESSAGE TO HEARST.

Says He Did Not Urge That the Independence League Support Bryan.

Erie, Penn., July 17.—Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, denied to-night that he had sent a cable message to William R. Hearst urging the latter to have the Independence League support Bryan for the Presidency. "I read in the newspapers that I am credited with asking Mr. Hearst to support Bryan," said Mr. Gompers, "and that Mr. Hearst has made reply to me through the press. Now, I did nothing of the kind. I don't know where the message Mr. Hearst claims to have received came from. I did not send it or any other message to Mr. Hearst."

LABOR MEN FOR TAFT.

Bitter Opposition in Chicago to Dictation by Gompers.

Chicago, July 17.—The effort of Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, to turn the labor vote to Bryan is causing a bitter protest among Chicago labor leaders. The labor men here criticize Gompers from two points of view. First, they say he has no right to attempt to dictate to the labor vote. Second, they declare he, as well as his colleagues, should not travel over the country, speaking for Bryan, when the labor men are paying his traveling expenses. Daniel J. Keefe, president of the Longshoremen's Union, is openly out for Taft. Daniel Smith, president of the Switchmen's Union, says he is for Taft. He says his political views are his own, and that no labor leader can dictate to him. It was suggested that Samuel Prier, organizer for the American Federation of Labor, who is now in Detroit, agitating against Mr. Gompers because of his stand in favor of Bryan, probably would come to Chicago. It is likely that with Prier here the mutterings that are now being heard would become an open revolt and that some official action might be taken.

RAILROADS FIGHT LOAN SHARKS.

Baltimore, July 17.—Assignment of wages by Baltimore & Ohio employes has been officially prohibited under penalty of immediate suspension or dismissal. The object is to prevent loan sharks from extorting usurious rates of interest, an instance having been found where \$5 was demanded in addition to interest on a loan. The Pennsylvania and Reading, it is stated, will take like action, and the thousands of employes on these three roads will be protected from further imposition.

NEARING STATE LINE

Y. M. C. A. Runners Reach Buffalo in About Fifty-three Hours.

Westfield, N. Y., July 17.—The Buffalo relay runners delivered the New York-Chicago message to the Jamestown Y. M. C. A. boys here at 11:20 o'clock to-night. The Jamestown relays will carry it to Erie, Penn. Buffalo, July 17.—Mayor McClellan's message to Mayor Busse of Chicago reached the Central Young Men's Christian Association in Buffalo at 3:32 o'clock this morning. Brockway, one of the Batavia runners, delivered the tube to Secretary Whiteford. Hecke, the first runner of the Buffalo team, darted away four minutes later. The Buffalo team is made up of twenty-eight boys, who will carry the message as far as Westfield, N. Y., where Jamestown supplies the runners to Erie, Penn. While the message is ahead of schedule time, the Batavia runners lost ground. Coming over the Clarence Hills Osborne ptered out and had to walk to the end of his relay. A heavy rain fell on the runners most of the time. The roads were fairly good. The relay racers were reported past Fredonia just before 9 o'clock to-night. By an error no relay was sent to meet Linnborn when he reached Fredonia. The relay instead was waiting at Dunkirk, about three miles away. An automobile started from Dunkirk and met Linnborn, who was still running fresh. Batavia, July 17.—Willis Bradstreet, of Rochester, brought the Y. M. C. A. New York-Chicago message here at 11:18 o'clock this morning. It was received by Mayor Johnson, who at once turned it over to Malcolm Myer, the first Batavia runner, a lad of ten years, who probably is the smallest runner taking part in the race. Rochester, July 17.—At 7:25 o'clock this morning the Young Men's Christian Association runners in the New York to Chicago relay race arrived in Rochester, just eight hours and fifteen minutes ahead of the scheduled as figured out yesterday. The silver tube reached Geneva at 2:14 a. m. and Canandaigua at 4:59 a. m. The local runners were on duty at 7 o'clock sharp, when Canandaigua's tenth racer dashed up to the Young Men's Christian Association Building and handed the silver tube to H. Hans. General Secretary McKee, on returning in his automobile, said the first eight of Rochester's runners made nine miles in forty minutes. The Rochester relay established a record for the entire trip, reaching Batavia at 11:15 o'clock. A. A. Jameson, of the 23d street branch of the Young Men's Christian Association, who was in charge of the New York-Chicago race over the division from this city to Buffalo, said to-night: "Favored by good weather, the boys runners were able to make far better time than had been expected. The message, which left here Wednesday morning, was carried to Buffalo in fifty-three hours and twenty-two minutes, nine hours and five minutes ahead of schedule time, the average time a mile being 6 minutes 23.12th seconds, a trifle better than nine miles an hour. The course from New York to Buffalo covered 490 miles of road. It took 666 runners to carry the message from the City Hall here to Buffalo Young Men's Christian Association headquarters. Rain was reported west of Buffalo, and it is probable that the racers over the Western division will be retarded, but it seems hardly likely that they will lose the time already gained by the Eastern runners."

GIRLS IN BOAT CRASH.

Launch on Lake Hopatcong Cut in Two by Another.

Lake Hopatcong, N. J., July 17.—Five young girls in a pleasure launch were rescued from drowning here to-day when the launch Uncle Dan, owned by the Bertrand Island Transportation Company and in charge of Captain Ivan King, cut in two the motor boat Nell, amidstpish. The fact that the awning frame of the wrecked and sinking craft caught on the bowsprit of the Uncle Dan saved the boat from going down in sixty feet of water and held the frightened occupants afloat until they could be taken off. The accident happened at Nolan's Point. The girls managed to get to the canopy top and hung to it until Captain King could drag each across it into his boat. H. McElroy, in charge of the wrecked boat, swam to the Uncle Dan and climbed in. Captain King then pushed the wreck of the Nell into shallow water before letting it get off the bow of his boat. Each captain claims the captain of the other boat was to blame. Almost Surrounded by Wall of Flames in Maine Woods. Wells, Me., July 17.—Nearly blind from terrific heat and smoke, with their faces and bodies blistered and burned after an awful fight against flames, twenty Dover firemen, who had been given up for dead, staggered into Wells to-day with thrilling stories of their experiences in a veritable furnace in the midst of the forest. Their clothing was scorched into tatters and their shoes had been literally burned from their feet. In their all night fight against death they were terribly scorched and cut. Some will be laid up for weeks. They had to follow the fire ahead of them, picking out every available opening, until they finally struck a clearing. BATTED BALL KILLS BABY IN ARMS. Pittsburg, July 17.—Another death was caused to-day by baseball, making six lives that have been lost in Pittsburg since the season started. The latest victim was the seven months old son of Andrew Lukisa, of Eikhorn, who was struck on the head by a batted ball while being held in the arms of his sister, who was watching a game

"ANYBODY BUT BRYAN."

Hope of Ex-Senator Stewart, Who Voted for Him in 1896.

Washington, July 17.—"You ask me who is going to be the next President of the United States," said ex-Senator William M. Stewart, of Nevada, to-day, "and I can only answer that I hope it will be anybody except William Jennings Bryan; but I am out of politics now." "Did you not support Bryan in 1896?" Senator Stewart was asked. "No," he answered. "I supported the question which he represented, a repudiation of the gold standard, but the Bryan of 1896 is not the same Bryan who is running now, and if he had been I seriously doubt whether I would have voted at all that year. Bryan was then a young and ambitious man; he is now an ambitious political acrobat. Show me the political limb that he has not lit on and then down from at every adverse wind. "He declares in the most robust terms in favor of states' rights and against the interference of the federal government, and in the next breath says that a corporation created by a sovereign state must get a license from the general government before it can do business. "But his plank on the judiciary is the greatest curiosity in modern literature. I have read it over and over again to ascertain its meaning and have failed. He evidently expects people to take his word for it that it means something good, but in my opinion few voters, laborers or otherwise, will be willing to trust to him after the numerous mistakes he has made and the numerous retreats he has beaten."

ALABAMA TROOPS OUT.

Governor Sends Militia to Scene of Fatal Conflict with Strikers.

Birmingham, Ala., July 17.—Governor Comer, alarmed by the developments in the mine strike, has ordered the military of the district to sleep on their arms to-night and remain in readiness for an emergency call. Governor Comer, with Sheriff Higdon and several deputies, made an automobile tour of the strike district to-day. So impressed was the Governor with the seriousness of the situation that on returning to Birmingham three local companies of militia were ordered under arms. At the present time, a mixed company, numbering one hundred men, is en route to Adamsville, where a fight took place this afternoon between strike sympathizers and deputies. One deputy is reported dead, others are wounded, and many strike sympathizers have been arrested. The Governor addressed several thousand miners at Henry Ellen and Republic, and told them that the state would not countenance the stopping of trains, the shooting into trains nor the assembling of armed bodies of men. He said here that the miners appeared conservative, calm and sober. The Governor will remain here until Monday afternoon. A report was received at the Sheriff's office to-night that a fight had taken place at Blossburg and that many men had been killed or wounded. State troops will soon be en route to that place, and if the guards, as is reported, are in distress, they will soon be relieved.

WOMAN SHOT IN HOME.

Baby Plays with Revolver Near His Mother's Body.

The Brooklyn police are investigating the death of Mrs. Samuel Friedland, wife of a real estate dealer, living at No. 1665 Prospect Park, Brooklyn, who was found dead with a bullet wound in her right temple last night. Her two-year-old son, Abraham, was found near her body tightly clutching a revolver. Two theories are advanced by the police for the tragedy—one that the child in playing with the revolver shot his mother, and the other that Mrs. Friedland took her own life and the child, after his mother's death, amused himself with the weapon. Members of the family believe in the latter theory, as Mrs. Friedland had been morose recently and had threatened several times to take her own life. NEW YORK CHEMIST A SUICIDE. H. S. Vaughn Shoots Himself While on Vacation in New Hampshire. Colebrook, N. H., July 17.—H. S. Vaughn, of New York City, committed suicide in a field near the summer boarding house where he had been staying to-day, firing a bullet through his mouth. He had spent several summers here and had occasionally come here at other seasons for the benefit of his health. It is supposed that despondency over his continued ill health led to the act. He was about fifty-seven years old. He leaves a wife and one son, who are in New York. Mr. Vaughn, a former commission merchant of this city, gave up his business to devote himself to religion. He was once a teacher of chemistry at Brown University, and then State Assayer of Rhode Island and city chemist of Providence. Later he gave up science for business. After he had retired from business he was called for jury duty to a conference at Oyster Bay, Lenox, Mass., July 17.—Attorney General Charles J. Bonaparte, who came to his summer home here a few days ago, was summoned by President Roosevelt to-day to a conference at Oyster Bay to-morrow. The Attorney General departed on a late afternoon train. When asked the nature of the conference Mr. Bonaparte would only say that he was summoned on "official business."

TO WIN THE WEST

MR. HITCHCOCK'S PLAN.

Co-operation Keynote—Conferences in Colorado, Chicago and New York.

Chicago, July 17.—Frank H. Hitchcock purposes to pursue, as chairman of the Republican National Committee, the same businesslike methods which he used in Secretary Taft's behalf prior to the nomination at Chicago, methods which won for him the admiration of the large majority of Republicans and which the envious characterized as "card index politics." Already Mr. Hitchcock has planned three important conferences, to be held at Colorado Springs, Chicago and New York, respectively, the first to occur on July 20. All of the national committeemen and the chairmen of the Republican committees in the states west of the Missouri River have been bidden to the Colorado Springs conference, and with the exception of two or three who had left their homes before the conference was called, all have cordially accepted. Senator Simmons and other prominent Bryanites admitted that the failure at Denver to elect Judge Gray to accept a place on the ticket and to beguile Tammany into nominating Mr. Bryan's running mate rendered hopeless the chances of the "Peerless Leader" in the East, and one and all declared that the West would furnish the battleground of the campaign. Chairman Hitchcock, who arrived in Chicago to-day on his way to Colorado, declared his willingness to accept at their face value the declarations of the Bryan lieutenants, and his purpose to carry the war into Africa, if that name might be given to the desert wastes of the Western states—deserts, of course, only where there is no irrigation. It is in pursuance of this policy that the first of the three important conferences planned by the national chairman will be held in Colorado. Contrary to the popular impression, Mr. Hitchcock, although a citizen of the old Bay State, is better known in the West than in any other section of the country. He has made numerous trips through the Western states, beginning with the campaign of four years ago, and it was largely the emphatic declarations of the Western committeemen and party leaders that Hitchcock could lead the party to victory which resulted in his selection for the responsible place he now holds. Further expression of that confidence is afforded by the unanimity with which the Western leaders have accepted his invitations to attend the Colorado Springs conference. POLICY OF CO-OPERATION. Mr. Hitchcock himself is reticent concerning his plans for the Western campaign, but it may be asserted that co-operation will be the keynote of his policy. His effort will be to induce the leaders of each state, who heretofore have worked exclusively to achieve a victory for the national ticket in their particular state, to co-operate heartily in devoting no small portion of their time and ability to insuring a Republican victory in commonwealths where success can be achieved only by able and energetic work. It is already obvious that the most strenuous efforts will be put forth by the Democratic leaders to capture Colorado, Oregon, California and Idaho. Following up the successful attempt to conciliate Samuel Gompers at Denver, steps have already been taken to obtain the united support of the Miners' Federation for Mr. Bryan in Colorado and Idaho. Of course, there is a question as to how far this policy can be pursued without estranging the conservative element of the party to an extent which would contribute, in the last analysis, to Mr. Bryan's defeat, but as the word went forth at the Denver convention that Bryan must win by extreme radicalism or not at all, the Bryan campaign is to consist largely of an effort to enlist the most radical element, especially in the Western states. In Oregon a curious situation has been caused by the choke at the primaries of Governor Chamberlain to succeed Senator Fulton in the upper house, a choice which a Republican Legislature stands pledged to ratify. The winning of a seat in the Senate and its prospective occupancy by their popular ex-Governor has given a new lease of life to the Oregon Democracy and rendered the state debatable ground. It is difficult to ascertain any ground on which the Democratic leaders base their hope of transferring California to the Democratic column. But that certain influential Western Democrats cherish such a hope cannot be gainsaid. It is both to acquaint himself with the details of the situation in these states and to give the proper impulse and direction to the work of the Republicans that Mr. Hitchcock has called the Colorado conference. No date has been fixed for the Chicago conference, but it will probably occur close to July 25, when the designated committee will formally advise Judge Taft of his nomination. FACTIONALISM IN IOWA. When the conference of the Middle West leaders occurs the most important discussions will be those dealing with Indiana and Iowa, and possibly with Wisconsin. Factionalism in the Republican ranks in Iowa has run riot, and Cummins men and Allison men lie in wait for one another at the dark corners of every country lane with gleaming scalping knives. The situation in Iowa has led such stout Republicans as "Lafe" Young to predict victory by only forty thousand, as against the Roosevelt majority of one hundred and fifty thousand four years ago. This causes thoughtful Iowa Republicans to declare that the situation will make strong demands on all the diplomacy Mr. Hitchcock can command. Indiana is declared by the Democrats to be theirs because of the nomination of John W. Kern, twice defeated in the race for Governor, and because of the alleged dissatisfaction of certain Fairbanks at Chicago. Republicans, not conceding that Indiana is a doubtful state, will nevertheless make an earnest fight just to avoid any possible accident. Democratic claims of strength in Wisconsin are based chiefly on the fact that the Democrats at Denver swallowed whole the "half baked" planks with which Senator La Follette sought to exploit himself at Chicago and which the Republican convention emphatically rejected. As an offset to this, however, attention is called to the fact that Bryan has never been remarkably strong in Wisconsin, while his undisguised hostility to Governor Johnson at Denver must have enraged many of the Scandinavian voters, who would be essential to his success. Having already established the national committee headquarters in the tower of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Building in New York, Mr. Hitchcock spent a considerable portion of his day in Chicago considering the question of a proper location for a Western headquarters. Speaking of the importance of the fight in the West, Chairman Hitchcock said that it was likely he would spend the greater part