



MAY HOLD STOCK IN OTHER ROADS

TAFT RAILROAD BILL MODIFIED.

Mergers of Non-Competing Lines Permitted—Regulation of Financing.

Washington, Feb. 17.—The administration bill amending the interstate commerce act, originally introduced in the House by Representative Townsend, of Michigan, was reintroduced by him to-day, with a number of important amendments drawn by Attorney General Wickersham. These provisions, it is believed by the administration, will prevent the bill from interfering with any legitimate financing, while effectually preventing the issue of stocks and bonds without proper safeguards. The most important changes follow:

A railroad company is left free to acquire stock and bonds of another non-competing railroad, provided the aggregate amount of stock and bonds issued for such acquisition shall not exceed the fair value of the property, as ascertained by the Interstate Commerce Commission, or the aggregate par value of the stock and bonds acquired without increase in the aggregate interest payable on such bonds.

The stock and bond provision is amended so as to permit the reorganization of railroads and the merger of railroads not directly prohibited.

In the case of the consolidation or merger of two or more railroads, the stock and bonds of the consolidated or merged company are not to exceed the aggregate amount of stock and bonds of the constituent companies nor be in excess of the fair estimated value of the properties of the consolidated or merged company as ascertained by the commission.

The act establishes the general principle that no stocks shall be issued by railroads except at par, and no bonds except at their reasonable market or selling value as ascertained by the Interstate Commerce Commission, and where either stock or bonds is paid for in property, the fair value must be ascertained by the commission.

One new section deals specifically with the issue of stock and bonds on the reorganization of existing companies, and authorizes the issue of stock to an amount not exceeding the aggregate of the stock of the company reorganized, and bonds to an amount not exceeding the outstanding bonds and other obligations, including new money paid in, provided the aggregate interest charges to be paid by the reorganized company do not exceed the aggregate existing interest charges.

Where notes or other obligations made in conformity with the act are secured by the pledge of bonds, a sale of the pledged bonds to enforce the loan must be had at public auction, and notes may be made convertible into pledged bonds on the basis of the reasonable market or selling value of the bonds, as approved by the commission.

The amendments are so framed that the new act shall not operate to impair any contract, mortgage or other instrument made prior to the passage of the act.

Electric railroads are included in the scope of the bill. This concession they desired, as was ascertained at the recent hearings, when it was complained that the bill discriminated in favor of the steam lines, to the financial detriment of the electric roads.

An amendment relating to the Commerce Court limits its power to that of a federal circuit court, to meet the objection made to the original provision that the court would have more extensive jurisdiction than the existing circuit courts of the United States.

Another amendment provides that any officer of a railroad corporation who violates the law may be punished by a fine of \$2,000, or three years' imprisonment, or both.

PITTSBURG'S BANDIT. Makes Regular Nightly Haul —Drug Store Again.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]
Pittsburg, Feb. 17.—The lone bandit with a big revolver who has been terrorizing the residence part of Pittsburg for more than a week by his bold hold-ups, to-night made his usual nightly haul, and in the same neighborhood where at least fifty armed detectives and police were looking for him. He wore a mask this time.

Shortly after 10 o'clock, while John Jarret, night clerk at the Melwood Pharmacy, was counting his cash register receipts, the bandit came in the door and took all the receipts at his revolver's point.

Last night presumably the same law-breaker entered the drug store of Dr. J. E. Brown, while a crowd was pouring from a theatre next door, made Brown call off a bulldog which was about to attack him, and rifled the cash register. A citizen was held up in a well lighted street and robbed of some \$400 the night before.

PROSECUTION OF CALHOUN.

San Francisco Judge May Take Case from District Attorney.

San Francisco, Feb. 17.—Declaring that District Attorney Fisk had not shown a disposition to prosecute the trial of Patrick Calhoun in good faith, Judge William F. Lawrence intervened in open court to-day that the case might be taken out of the hands of the District Attorney.

Mr. Calhoun is president of the United Railroads, San Francisco's streetcar system, and is charged with bribery in connection with the passage of an overhead trolley franchise. His first trial resulted in a discharge. The new District Attorney has charged that his predecessors left the case in bad shape.

GREAT BEAR SPRING WATER.
One per cent of 6 glass stoppered bottles.

MAYOR DENIES DEATH

Many Telephone Calls Follow Rumored Assassination.

The busiest telephone exchange in the city last night was Prospect, the busiest number 3,962 and the most patient man Mayor Gaynor. Finally, however, in self-defence he was forced to ask the manager of Prospect to refuse to make a connection for persons who wished to know if it were true that he had been assassinated in front of a theatre in Manhattan. To all who inquired before this request was made the Mayor said:

"No, it is not true that I have been killed. Nor is it true that an attempt has been made on my life. I left my office at the usual time and came directly home, where I have remained with my family. Everything is peaceful and serene."

Rumors that the Mayor had been the victim of an assassin spread like a prairie fire. The only foundation they had in fact was in the imagination of several Tenderloin newsboys who wanted to close out their stock of papers and get in out of the dampness of last evening. Two of them started from Broadway and 44th street and worked toward Sixth avenue, crying that the Mayor had been murdered. Their papers sold briskly at five cents each, and other boys took up the cry. There was nothing in any of the papers about an attempt on the Mayor's life, but Prospect 3,962 was busy all the evening.

A WIFE IN CHAINS.

Marital Jealousy Causes Horrible Crime in Paris.

Paris, Feb. 17.—The disappearance of the young wife of a druggist named Parat, whose pharmacy is near the scene of the Steinhell murder, was cleared up to-day, when the police broke in and found the woman heavily chained between the bed and the wall. Her body was horribly scorched.

In addition to the chain, which was strongly padlocked around the neck, a cruel contrivance, resembling a coat of mail, but strengthened by a belt of copper rings, enveloped the body. Both objects could be removed only by the use of keys.

The woman told a pitiful tale of two years' imprisonment and martyrdom. Last November, while still in chains, she gave birth to her fifth child. The husband refused to call a doctor.

Parat, who was arrested, said that he loved his wife, but was extremely jealous of her.

A THREE-CENT FARE.

With Four-Cent Maximum and \$50,000 Job in Cleveland.

Cleveland, Feb. 17.—Turning out to vote in a howling blizzard, the people of Cleveland to-day ended the fight for low streetcar fares begun fifteen years ago and made famous by Tom L. Johnson. The three-cent fare goes into operation to-morrow.

The new franchise proposed by Judge Robert W. Taylor, of the federal court, was approved in a referendum election by a majority of 8,100, the largest majority ever given to a public measure in Cleveland.

The basis of the franchise is that streetcar service, under control of the city, must be furnished by the Cleveland Railway Company at cost plus 6 per cent return to the stockholders on their investment.

For the first eight months the fare will be three cents, with a cent charge for a transfer, this fixed rate being made as a test. The maximum rate of fare allowable during the term of the grant—twenty-five years—is four cents cash, or seven tickets for 25 cents.

A street railway commissioner, to be paid \$40,000 a year out of the company's earnings for his salary and expenses, acts as the adviser of the city in the regulation of service and fares and has perpetual access to the company's books. Gerhard M. Dahl, former lieutenant of Senator La Follette in Wisconsin, has been named to this place.

RIOT IN CAIRO.

Mob Storms Jail to Get Negro Purse Snatcher.

Cairo, Ill., Feb. 17.—A pitched battle took place to-night between twenty deputy sheriffs guarding the jail and a mob of two hundred persons who tried to break into the jail to get a negro charged with purse snatching.

Sheriff Nellis sent out word to the mob that he would fight to a finish and two men were shot in the first rush. It is not known how severely they were injured. A lively exchange of shots followed.

John Pratt, the negro the mob was after, was arrested to-day and identified by two women as the man who snatched their purses. He confessed and was indicted an hour later.

Two women were robbed, one a relative of Annie Pelley, whose murder resulted in the lynching of William James several months ago. The Sheriff stated that a brother of Miss Pelley's relative had gone about inciting the habitues of saloons to violence against the purse snatcher. The local militia company has been ordered out.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 17.—Governor Deneen to-night ordered the Cairo company of the state militia to be ready to assist Sheriff Nellis to preserve order in Cairo.

NEW YORK CENTRAL PLANS.

Outlined by Western Maryland Counsel at Annapolis.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]
Baltimore, Feb. 17.—George R. Gatcher, counsel for the Western Maryland Railroad, in a statement before the Legislative Committee on Railroads at Annapolis to-day said that the New York Central has day one terminus in New York, while its competitors have several. In the extension of its business to the West, which must be done in Baltimore, over the West-ern Maryland, which it will connect with Penn., by a link extending three miles long to be constructed within two years. It will have direct connection with the Vauxhall system.

DRIVES AT "SYSTEM"

BUGHER GIVES IT A SMASHING BLOW.

Has Fine of Raiding Detective Remitted, and Goes After His Accusers.

The police "system" received one of the worst blows in its history yesterday, as the result of the unprecedented action of Acting Commissioner Bugher.

Mr. Bugher examined personally the men who arrested Detective Gallagher, who, as a member of Chief Inspector Schmittberger's staff, was concerned in a gambling raid over the heads of Inspector Hogan and Captain Morris on Monday night. Gallagher was arrested for "disorderly conduct" on Wednesday morning and was fined \$5 later in the day by Magistrate Harris in the Yorkville court.

Mr. Bugher saw in the arrest an attempt to discredit a new policeman, employed in active effort to destroy the "system," and jumped into the case at once, with such telling effect that Gallagher's fine was remitted yesterday by Magistrate Harris. He then restored the detective to duty and transferred the men concerned in the arrest.

Deputy Commissioner Walsh heard testimony in the cases of the five patrolmen charged with being connected with the alleged assault on a woman in a barber shop in East 54th street, on January 27. At the end of the trials he announced that he would recommend the dismissal of three of the men and reversed decision in the other two cases.

A patrolman of the Bergen street station, Brooklyn, was arrested on a charge of wrecking the home of a storekeeper. The case fell through in court, however, because the complainant refused to press the charge.

Acting Commissioner Bugher secured a rehearing of the Gallagher case, because he thought the detective "did not have a square deal at the first hearing, because important witnesses were not called." Throughout the hearing he was alert, and sharply cross-examined the witnesses when their testimony was contradictory. Once he turned to the magistrate, and, as he winked, remarked: "Such is the condition of affairs."

Patrolman Sullivan, of the 5th street station, the first witness, testified that when he was in 14th street Tuesday night several women told him that a man who posed as a detective had demanded money from them, and that one of them said Gallagher was the man.

Patrolman Farrell, who testified that Detective Nelson, who arrested Gallagher, and Gallagher used hard language in addressing each other, said in reply to a question of the Commissioner: "Gallagher was not intoxicated as far as I could see."

MAY GO "HIGHER UP."

Gallagher was arrested on Wednesday morning by Detective Nelson, and Detective Bishop bore witness against him. Mr. Bugher sent them both to walk the streets yesterday, and both are likely to face charges later, in which Lieutenant Kuehne, on the desk in the East 5th street station when Gallagher was brought in, may be involved. Bigger men still may be brought up with a round turn if Mr. Bugher can get the facts he is looking for.

At the hearing yesterday Nelson repeated his testimony of the day before, that Sullivan told him of the women's complaints and that he thought Gallagher was intoxicated.

Mr. Bugher, in examining Nelson, made the detective say first that he was afraid Gallagher would shoot him, and then admit that Gallagher had no gun.

Nelson then said: "I have a woman in court whom this man Gallagher approached."

WOMAN TAKES THE STAND.

The woman was called to the stand and said her name was Sophie Burns.

"Where was Patrolman Sullivan standing when you walked up to him?" asked Nelson.

"At 14th street and Third avenue," "What did you say to him?"

"I told Sullivan that a man was about flashing a badge, and that he posed as a policeman."

"What did Sullivan do?"

"Sullivan went with me, and we walked to where you were standing at 13th street and Third avenue, and I heard Sullivan tell you about a man flashing a shield, and then I walked away."

Nelson said that after Sullivan and the woman walked away, he saw a crowd across the street, that he ran across, and the woman pointed out Gallagher as the man who had accosted her and had shoved her with his fist.

Then Mr. Bugher examined the woman and brought out that she had known Nelson and Bishop for about two weeks. Then she said that she had been in the precinct for four years and had not been arrested at all for two years.

"Have you any questions to ask this woman?" the Magistrate asked Gallagher.

"I don't know," replied Gallagher, "whether it was she or not who accosted me. I was in 13th street, between Third and Fourth avenues, when some woman accosted me. I pushed her to one side and told her to get away; that I had other business to attend to."

Bishop testified that Gallagher had not acted in a disorderly manner. Dr. Palmer, chief surgeon of the department, testified that Gallagher, an examination, showed no signs of intoxication. Then Magistrate Harris said:

"Under the additional testimony I am convinced that Policeman Gallagher was not intoxicated. Technically Gallagher was placed under arrest at 19th street and Third avenue, and therefore from that time on there is no testimony before me that he acted improperly or used profane or indecent language. I

Continued on eighth page.

\$50 to California and Pacific Coast via West Shore R. R., 537 via N. Y. Central. Feb. 28 to April 11. Phone 6210 Madison Ave. —Adv.



JAMES R. KEENE BEING QUIZZED ABOUT HOCKING POOLS. (Photograph Copyright, 1910, by George G. Bain.)

HELD POOL STOCK

KEENE SAYS HE DID NOT SELL OUT.

Books Said to Show He Gave Twice as Much to Syndicate as He Bought.

James R. Keene submitted yesterday to a more pointed examination of his activity as manager of the Hocking pools. The questions of J. M. Fiske & Co., one of the three Stock Exchange firms which failed with the collapse of the pools last month, were designed to bring out just what became of the large individual holdings of Columbus and Hocking Coal and Iron stock which Mr. Keene had acquired prior to the formation of Pool No. 1. Explanation of numerous items appearing on the transcript of Mr. Keene's books offered in evidence was hampered by the absence of the witness's bookkeeper, who helped him so materially at his first public examination, last Monday.

Commissioner Alexander's dingy room was crowded, as on Monday, and the closeness of the air was bad for tempers. Mr. Keene showed some impatience at Mr. Wolf's repeated queries relating to the entries in his books, and said finally: "You might ask me these questions for a hundred years and I could not answer them. I must tell you that I am not familiar with bookkeeping details. I want to give you information."

"That's what we want—information," rejoined Mr. Wolf. "Is your bookkeeper here?"

"He is in town," said Mr. Keene, "but he became sick or something, and stepped out."

A tolerable key to the drift of Mr. Wolf's questions and to the maze into which those questions involving the bookkeeping methods in vogue in Mr. Keene's office apparently plunged the witness, and certainly plunged all the passive spectators, may be found in Mr. Keene's own explanation of the stipulation with which he entered pool No. 1.

KEENE FRANK TO POOL.

"When the pool was first formed—it may have been just before its formation or shortly afterward, I can't recall—there was a meeting of all the contributors in Haskins's office," he said. "In the general discussion the question was raised by some one among the fifteen or twenty present as to who was the biggest Hocking stockholder. I said the Lathrop estate must be, because that was the general belief."

Mr. Keene added that he then turned to Haskins, and the following conversation ensued between them:

"How much of the stock have you got?"

"Nobody shall know," said Haskins. "But what harm would it do if they did know?"

"I am not going to tell any one how much I hold," he replied. "He said he had a great deal, though, and that he thought it was worth more money."

Following these remarks between him and Mr. Haskins, Mr. Keene testified he told the members of the pool: "You all know I hold seven thousand shares of the stock. As long as this pool goes on I will keep them. But I give you full notice, when I sell out this pool I am to be free to sell my own stock from then on."

"When the pools were closed out on January 19—that is, when the crash came—what were your holdings of Hocking stock individually or as a pool member?" was Mr. Wolf's first question.

"I held my pool stock," replied Mr. Keene.

"How much was that?"

"Sixty-one hundred or sixty-two hundred shares. I had actually seventy-five hundred. The remainder I held individually."

Mr. Wolf took up the transcript of the books then, and the trouble began. He wanted to know what distinction there was between entries of stock marked "bought and sold" and those marked "received and delivered." Mr. Keene put out his hand for the copy of the transcript.

"Let me look at that," he said. "I don't know much about books."

"But you know considerable about stocks," suggested Mr. Wolf.

"I don't know," said Mr. Keene, slowly. "I don't like."

Then he looked the transcript over carefully.

MR. KEENE EXPLAINS.

"When you see stock 'delivered,'" he said, "that means the constituent parties received their pro rata shares of the stock bought. The same stocks that were bought and sold were received and

Continued on fourth page.

SENATORS IN PERIL.

Tillman's Condition Serious—W. A. Smith Has Appendicitis.

Washington, Feb. 17.—Senator Benjamin R. Tillman, of South Carolina, is seriously ill and will be unable to take part in any active deliberations of the Senate for the remainder of the session. Following the collapse of the Senator on the steps of the Capitol, on Wednesday, he was removed to his home and appeared to recover from an attack of dizziness, but to-day his condition greatly alarmed his friends.

Dr. E. F. Pickford, Mr. Tillman's physician, said to-night that the Senator is suffering from slight progressive paralysis, due to a leakage of blood in the brain, caused by calcification of the arteries.

Senator William Alden Smith, of Michigan, is seriously ill at his home here with appendicitis. Dr. Louis Barth, of Grand Rapids, Mich., Senator Smith's personal physician, arrived in Washington late to-night. Local physicians diagnosed Mr. Smith's case as acute appendicitis, and urged that he be hurried to a hospital for an operation. Mrs. Smith would not consent to this, however, until Dr. Barth had examined the patient.

Mr. Smith was reported to be resting comfortably to-night, and his temperature was said to be low.

COAL NEAR AUBURN.

Farmer Digging a Well Strikes Rich Vein.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]
Auburn, N. Y., Feb. 17.—J. E. Downs, of Wadesport, came to Auburn to-day to consult with a number of persons over a discovery he made on his farm, a mile south of the village, last Friday.

He stated that in digging a well the men struck soft black soil about nine inches thick when at a depth of twenty-three feet; they came upon a vein of coal, samples of which showed it to be anthracite. It was tested and burned with very little ash. The hard coal vein was several feet thick, and below was gravel.

RIOT IN FRANKFORT.

Many Police and Suffrage Demonstrators Hurt.

Frankfort-on-the-Main, Feb. 17.—Fierce street fighting occurred late to-night between the police and suffrage demonstrators, and a large number were wounded on both sides. The Socialists had organized five mass meetings, which passed off in good order, but crowds at a later hour gathered in the principal streets, singing and cheering for a secret ballot. A conflict with the police at once followed. The police used their sabres and revolvers, charging several times, and the demonstrators repiled with volleys of stones and bags of pepper.

Four civilians, seriously wounded, were taken to the hospital, with a policeman who had been stabbed through the lungs. These, however, constitute only a small proportion of those injured. Fighting still continued at midnight in various quarters of the city.

ODD AUTO ACCIDENTS.

Two with Similar Peculiarities Occur in City.

Two unusual automobile accidents, marked by much similarity in their details, resulted in serious injury to a man in Harlem and slight injury to a woman on the West Side last night. August Hollinger, night manager of a drug store at Seventh avenue and 125th street, was on his way to work from his home, at No. 428 West 124th street, when he was struck either by a meat wagon or a taxicab at 125th street and St. Nicholas avenue.

Hollinger was taken to the J. Hood Wright Hospital, suffering from a fractured skull and possible internal injuries. Dennis McKenna, of No. 143 East 90th street, driver of the taxicab, and Thomas Fahy, of No. 288 West 125th street, driver of the wagon, were locked up on charges of criminal negligence. Each blamed the other for the accident.

Mrs. McGovern was walking down Columbus avenue and stopped at 61st street to allow an automobile owned by Louis D. F. Munger, of No. 604 West 52d street, to pass her. At that moment a southbound car struck a rear wheel of the machine and swung it around with such force that Mrs. McGovern was knocked down. She was taken to the Flower Hospital. She was not badly hurt. Adolf Bleka, chauffeur for Mr. Munger, was arrested on a charge of assault.

Have You Tried Dewey's Champagnes, "Dewey's" and "Dewey's"? H. T. Dewey & Sons Co., 123 Fulton St., N. Y. —Adv.

CHILD FULL OF GRIT

PINNED UNDER CAR; AIDS RESCUERS.

Firemen Get Her Free with Help of Searchlight—Bruises Only Injured.

Wedge under the forward trucks of a car of the Broadway, Brooklyn, line, after being knocked down at Broadway and Greene avenue last night, six-year-old Annie Greenfield, of No. 34 Howard avenue, gave an exhibition of pluck that compelled the admiration of hundreds of residents of the section and others bound for theatres in the neighborhood.

For half an hour the little girl lay in her position of peril, but not once did she cry out with pain nor shed a tear, her only wish being the assurance that a photographic record which she had just bought was not harmed.

Annie and a companion, Mabel Farrelly, were crossing the tracks just as a car in charge of John Tuttle came along. Tuttle applied the brakes, but the tracks were covered with ice and his efforts to stop it. Before the little girl could get out of the way she was struck and dragged under the trucks. Her companion escaped.

The accident occurred in front of a branch station of the Postoffice, and clerks and carriers rushed out and tried to lift the car from the track without avail. The passengers left the car, and many of them added their efforts to the attempt to rescue the little girl, but the car remained on the rails.

Despairing of being able to release the victim of the accident, a postoffice clerk sent a call to Captain McLaughlin, of Hook and Ladder Company 61, in Halsey street. He answered with his men, and jacked up the car so that the girl could be released.

Samuel Flagenheimer, commander of the American Life Saving Society, also appeared on the scene with a small searchlight, which he placed under the car while Dr. Herbert, of the Bushwick Hospital, crawled in and administered something to lessen the pain from which the child must have been suffering. Finally they got her out.

He removed her to the hospital after the record had been picked up intact. A careful investigation was made there, but the only injuries that were apparent were several bruises on her legs, where the trucks had pressed upon them. She continued to maintain a stoic indifference to her injuries while the examination was going on, and did not express any enthusiasm when informed that she would be able to leave the hospital in a day or two.

TRUCK KILLS CHILD.

Police Looking for Driver Who Had Been Allowed to Go.

Mary O'Reilly, seven years old, of No. 219 East 74th street, was knocked down at 74th street and Third avenue by an automobile mail truck last evening and died in Presbyterian Hospital a few minutes later.

The driver stopped his machine at once and jumped down. With the assistance of Patrolman Bierman, of the East 67th street station, he carried the girl to the sidewalk. She was conscious and cried to be taken home, but Bierman summoned an ambulance. She died within fifteen minutes after entering the hospital.

Bierman took the driver's name and the number of the machine, but did not arrest him because he did not think the child was badly hurt. Captain Hughes, as soon as he heard of the child's death, sent two detectives to look for the driver.

AMERICANS BAD LOSERS.

They Don't Like to "Pay the Price," Says President Underwood.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]
Milwaukee, Feb. 17.—President Underwood of the Erie Railroad, on a visit to his old home in this city, to-day talked about the high cost of living.

"The American is a bad loser," he said, "although he may try to make people believe he is not. To this fact is ascribed, first of all, the uproar about high prices. The unspecialized man is the sufferer and he can do nothing but talk. His only weapon is his tongue. He can better his condition, go back to the land and become a producer, as the farmer is to-day, or bear the ills he now suffers. Most of them are bearing the ills and complaining."

"Pay the price is the only way to meet the price home in this city, to-day passes the fact that he is no longer called a 'Rube' and a 'hayseed' will in time remedy conditions. The abuse of the farmer and the insults given him by the city people were in large part responsible for driving the country boy to the city."

CONGRER ACCUSES SPEAKER NIXON

SAYS HE RECEIVED A \$1,000 ENVELOPE.

Jean Burnett, He Testifies, Received the Package with \$4,000 in It.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]
Albany, Feb. 17.—Testifying to-day before the Senate committee of the whole in the investigation of the bribery charges against Jotham P. Allds, Senator Benn Conger declared:

That the name of Fred Nixon, then Speaker of the Assembly, was written on the second \$1,000 envelope, but that he did not see the envelope handed to Nixon, though he introduced Moe to the Speaker. (Mr. Nixon died in 1905.)

That the \$4,000 envelope was delivered to Jean Burnett in his (Conger's) presence. (Mr. Burnett died in 1907.)

That the 1905 demands were made by certain persons for \$10,000, in consideration of which the highway bills affecting the bridge interests then pending before the Legislature would be killed.

That at a meeting of representatives of bridge companies in Syracuse it was decided not to be "blackmailed" and no fund was subscribed.

That he considered the bill introduced by Assemblyman John Vale, of Putnam County, affecting the bridge companies, which became a law in 1905, a strike bill, and that the Malby-Stevens bills and their successors of like provisions were regarded as strike legislation.

That in 1903 a fund of \$5,000 was subscribed by various bridge companies, and that the highway bills that year died in committee.

That in 1902 he visited Colonel George W. Dunn, then Republican State Chairman, in his office at the State Railroad Commission here, and later made a contribution to the campaign fund for himself and some bridge companies. That year the highway legislation died.

That he did not consider the money paid to Allds and the others bribery, but blackmail.

Senator Conger's testimony thus attacked not only the individual legislator whose name he mentioned, but in its entirety was a vicious blow at the legislative and political system in this state. The testimony of Senator Thomas C. Platt regarding corporation campaign contributions before the legislative committee which investigated the insurance scandals was not so far-reaching, because it was not so specific.

GENERAL INQUIRY NEEDED.

One inference, and only one, was carried by Conger's testimony to-day—that business interests had been subjected to "strikes" and "blackmail" by individual legislators and that there was so close a bond between the Legislature and the Republican State Committee that a campaign contribution would kill bills which in other years were killed by contributions to influential members of the Legislature.

Members of the Legislature who are known to be in accord with Governor Hughes say that each day's proceedings in this investigation seem to bring out some new reason for the proposed general investigation which shall clear the atmosphere, allay public suspicion that misdeeds are being concealed and furnish material for a housecleaning and reorganization to sever practical politics and the Legislature as far as possible.