

Ship Rates Cut 66 Per Cent to British Ports

United States Board Meets Reduction Authorized by England on All the Lines In Effect Immediately Sharp Decline Surprises Local Circles; Is Aimed to Stimulate Business

Shipping rates on commercial cargoes from the United States to all ports of the United Kingdom were cut 66.23 per cent yesterday.

The new rates, which affect all commodities except cotton, were set by the British Ministry of Shipping. They were announced by the British steamship companies here as becoming effective immediately.

The United States Shipping Board yesterday met the new schedules, so that there may be no possible prejudice against American bottoms and a uniform rate may be assured on all cargoes leaving this country for British ports.

"It had been decided some time ago," said A. E. Clegg, assistant director of operations and head of the New York office of the Federal Shipping Board, "to take this step just as soon as the inevitable cut in the British rates was decided upon. When the announcement was made Mr. Rossiter, director of operations at Washington, at once took the necessary formal steps and then sent out notice of the board's action."

All cargoes not yet loaded, even though they are already on the docks, Mr. Clegg said, will have the benefit of the new rates.

As set forth yesterday, these rates serve as a basic schedule, providing for a reduction from \$3.50 to \$1.10 hundred pounds of general merchandise, and from \$1.75 to 50 cents a cubic foot. This compares with a high record rate for the war period of approximately \$6.50 a hundred pounds, and a pre-war rate of about 60 cents. A new rate of \$2.00 a ton has been fixed on steel for export to the United Kingdom, against a previous rate of \$50 a ton and a pre-war rate of approximately \$3 a ton. Business is already being accepted at the new rates.

B. R. T. Is Authorized To Borrow \$3,000,000

Application for \$16,900,000 Loan To Be Heard by Special Master

The Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company receiver was authorized yesterday to borrow \$3,000,000, but there was evidence at the hearing before Judge Mayer in the United States District Court of difficulties to come in borrowing the \$16,900,000 wanted by Lindley M. Garrison, the receiver, E. Henry Lacombe will sit as special master at hearings on Mr. Garrison's petition, which is to be heard today.

In effecting the \$3,000,000 loan, B. R. T. refunding 4s of \$5,000,000, face value, and other securities with a face value of \$1,000,000, will be employed as collateral, according to Carl M. Owen, counsel for the receiver.

William Burr, Corporation Counsel, declared the \$16,900,000 loan project must come before the Public Service Commission, and the city reserved the right to question the issuance of the receivership certificates. He thought the appointment of a special master unnecessary.

"I think the greatest care should be taken," he said, "that this receivership is not made an occasion for the exploitation of this great property."

William H. Ransom, special counsel for the Public Service Commission, asserted Mr. Garrison's plan for raising money was "a continuation of the vicious practices that brought on the receivership."

The \$3,000,000 was most necessary to keep the B. R. T. going until April, according to Paul D. Cravat, counsel for the corporation's stock holders.

\$873,500 Is Asked Of Congress for Explosion Claims

U. S. Investigators Approve 6,142 Individual Cases in Morgan, N. J., Disaster; Railroads Get \$679,000

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—Immediate appropriation of \$873,500 to pay 6,142 claims of persons in New Jersey for losses of private property resulting from the explosion at the T. A. Gillespie plant last October was asked of Congress today by the War Department's special board investigating these damage claims.

The report suggested that railroad claims might be subject to settlement through the railroad administration, but referred them to Congress for decision of the agency through which reimbursement shall be effected.

As to the individual claims approved, the board urged an early settlement and said: "The amount represents the claims almost entirely of the poorest classes of people, most of whom are in great need of money to protect their families against the cold and the Atlantic coast storms, as well as to purchase tools needed in following their occupations and generally restore working and living conditions."

The report was referred to the House Appropriations Committee, which probably will consider the claims soon in connection with a deficiency bill.

The board held as probable claims of the Pennsylvania Railroad, the Central Railroad of New Jersey, the New York and Long Branch Railroad and the New York Telephone Company, aggregating \$2,200,000.

Indirect claims aggregating \$1,170,000, including those for loss of life and personal injury, were held not to be within the board's jurisdiction. A claim of T. A. Gillespie for \$100,000 advanced for repairs of homes was approved.

Ain't It a Grand and Glorious Feelin'?



New Woman Causes Arrest of Husband She Married Twice

"I Simply Won't Be Mistreated," Says Mrs. Berg, Who Intends to Prosecute for Non-Support

"I am a new woman and I simply won't be mistreated by any man on earth," Mrs. Frances Berg, aged eighteen, who left her job in a Philadelphia shoe store long enough to supervise the arrest of her twenty-year-old husband, Benjamin, returned yesterday to prepare extradition papers.

She declared that although they were married twice, once by a minister and once by a rabbi, the double bond was unable to hold him to his duty, and now she intends to prosecute him for failure to provide for her support.

Mrs. Berg arrived Saturday night. She brought with her one of the marriage certificates and a warrant issued by a Philadelphia court. By arrangement she met a policeman and took him to 220 Chester Street, Brooklyn, to her husband's address.

When the arrest had been accomplished she accompanied her husband to the police station, remarking at various times on the way "I guess this will be the last time I see you, you won't hang to his mamma's apron strings now."

O'Leary Demurrer Filed Declares Indictment Charges No Specific Violation of Law

A demurrer was interposed yesterday in the United States District Court to the indictment charging Jeremiah A. O'Leary with violation of the espionage act. Colonel Thomas B. Felder, O'Leary's counsel, declared that no specific attempt to violate the law was charged, that the law was designed to meet war conditions and that when the armistice was signed, the decision was reserved.

O'Leary was indicted with Adolph Stern, the Bull Publishing Company and the American Truth Society because of articles and cartoons in "Bull" magazine which were alleged to be obnoxious to recruiting.

Lieutenant Robert Dawson, of the general staff at Washington, has been sent to New York to renew the search for MacLeod boy.

Lieutenant Lawrence Scanlon, of Woodhaven, Queens, whom a German aviator shot in the right eye, is at Puysegur Hospital with a good chance, it is believed, of recovering the sight of his injured eye.

Mark Eisner, Internal Revenue Collector for the 3d District, made public yesterday a warning received from Washington concerning the activities of "tax experts." The warning was directed particularly against such "experts" whose fee was contingent upon the saving of money to the taxpayer.

Beck Will Address Welcome Meeting Despite Hearst Men

James M. Beck will address the soldiers' welcome meeting at the Academy of Music, Brooklyn, Wednesday night, as originally planned.

Nathan S. Jonas, chairman of the Brooklyn Victory Committee, in charge of selecting the speakers, said last night that Mr. Beck would speak if he is to remain on the committee.

Mr. Beck was invited to deliver a patriotic address at the Academy of Music meeting. He was invited as an American citizen and as one of the country's leading orators.

Mr. Beck will remain on the committee's list if I remain on the committee's list.

May Save Aviator's Sight Lieutenant Lawrence Scanlon, of Woodhaven, Queens, whom a German aviator shot in the right eye, is at Puysegur Hospital with a good chance, it is believed, of recovering the sight of his injured eye.

Jersey City Man's Injuries May Prove Fatal

Harry Nolan, of 122 Palisades Avenue, Jersey City, suffered a fracture of the skull yesterday in a collision between an automobile in which he was a passenger and a trolley car at Jackson and Communipaw avenues, Jersey City. He was taken to City Hospital and is not expected to live.

Four Hurt in Crash The Hahncock, which was a vessel of 2,500 tons, was picked up by the U. S. Navy and left its base here yesterday.

Executors' Psychic Failed to Find Big Estate, Claim Heirs

Richard H. Lane, whose punishment for alleged contempt of court is asked in the Surrogate's Court, was described yesterday before Surrogate Colahan as a man gifted with psychic powers.

Madman Kills 3 Men And Wounds 5 Others Philadelphia, Jan. 27.—With a revolver in each hand a man who gave his name as "Omega, son of Jesus Christ," ran through the streets near the center of the city today, shooting in every direction as a crowd tried to capture him.

Seven of Ten Die in Blazing Ship at Sea

Survivor of the Schooner Babcock Describes Desperate Battle for His Life Two Are Terribly Burned

An able seaman named St. Clair Wilson, the only man of a crew of ten who escaped death or injury on the four-masted schooner August H. Babcock, came on from Philadelphia yesterday and told how the vessel was burned to a charred hulk 300 miles southeast of Sandy Hook on January 19.

After reporting to A. H. Bull & Co., agents of the vessel, Wilson went to the office of the United States Shipping Commissioner in search of a new job and recalled his adventures on the Babcock.

"I've been up against it many times at sea," he said, "but never have I bucked up against anything as frightful as the burning of the Babcock. There were ten of us, including the skipper, Captain J. E. Rawding, who lived in Medford, Mass., with his wife. There are only three of us alive today, myself and two fellows who are suffering tortures in a hospital in Philadelphia. I am the only one that got out of the mess without a scratch."

Cargo Valued at \$600,000 Wilson said the Babcock went into Bayonne early in January and took on a cargo of case oil and gasoline for Las Palmas that was valued at \$300,000. She got under way on January 16 and set her course for the Canary Islands.

"We had a good wind and were making good time," said Wilson, "when a fire started in the forward part of the ship, and we had to do a thing to stop it. We worked the pumps and turned a stream into the flames, but it did no good."

Escape by Boats Bailed. "The boats were burned at the start, and we had nothing in which to get away. After about three hours only three of us were left alive. One was a negro named Harry Hayes, from the Dutch West Indies, and the other Johnny Becker, from Chicago. The three of us jumped overboard and swam aft, and finally pulled ourselves up on the stern, where we stood until the flames worked back to us.

200,000,000 lbs. of TNT This was one of the little surprises we were planning for Germany when the armistice stopped us. Now the Ordnance Department is wondering what to do with it. Read the story in next Sunday's Tribune Magazine Section