CHINESE VISITORS GUESTS OF EDISON

Orientals Amazed by Marvels of the Wizard's Inventions.

LEAVE FOR PROVIDENCE

The Honorary Commercial Commissioners of the Republic of China were the guests yesterday of Thomas A. Edison at his electrical plant in West Orange, N. J. The honorary secretary, David Z. T. Yui, greeted Mr. Edison in his office when the delegation arrived and he repeated his greeting just before the party left, in the laboratory where Mr. Edison has heard several thousand speeches, songs and instrumental pieces. Mr. Edison was not there the second time, but whenever he wants to hear himself praised by the young Chinaman all he will have to do is to tell some office boy to bring out such and such a record, for the greeting went into a phonograph and Mr. Yui heard it over again immediately to make sure that it was all right.

This was only one of a dozen surprises for the visitors that had been arranged. For example, Mr. Yui was told that some one wished to speak with him on the telephone. Another member of the party had called him from another building and the conversation went along for some time in Chinese. Then a workman turned a small lever and Mr. Yui heard the whole conversation over again, his own words and those of his friend. This was a demonstration of the telescribe, the latest invention of Mr. Edison. It is a telephone attachment that preserves the whole or any part of a telephone conversation. The conversation can be transcribed from the record at any time and if any person says he didn't say what the other fellow says he did there is the record to prove it.

The delegation went to West Orange by special train over the Erie. Mr. Yui remarked as he met Mr. Edison that he had been pleased by the opportunity to visit the "greatest republic in the world" and Mr. Edison said that he was pleased to meet men from "the biggest republic in the world." The inventor did not go through the shops, but had luncheon with the visitors. He left before it was over and headed for his laboratory. His chief engineer, Miller Reese Hutchison, and a corps of guides then took the party through all the buildings.

The attention of the visitors seemed to be keenest while they were being taken through the great storage battery plant. They learned that Mr. Edison made 55,000 individual experiments in getting this mechanism to its present state. It was explained to them that in its most advanced form this storage battery is to be placed aboard the new submarines and that it will overcome the chlorine gas difficulty that probably was responsible for the loss of a submarine in Honolulu Bay recently.

The members of the commission also gave much time to the various phonographic devices, being particularly anxious to learn just how these appliances are used by energetic business men. The demonstration of the Edison educational films was also made for their benefit. They saw a boy on the screen mixing chemicals, treating them with water or electricity and then looking through a microscope to see what the effect was. These effects were thrown on the screen, greatly magnified and brought gasps of surprise from everybody.

Just after the moving picture exhibition had begun the fire horn sounded "2—3," which is the alarm for the Edison plant. A shaft of light shot into the darkened room, the picture stopped and the visitors sat still while the employees in the gathering rushed to take their places in the Edison fire companies. Before the alarm had sounded a second time the Edison apparatus was out in the yard and hendreds of employees were at their stations. Then the second sounding of the alarm came. It was "3—3," which showed that a mistake had been made.

After the interruption the kinetophone was shown. This is the original talking movie. Mr. Hutchison said that it was the first demonstration since the big fire and it turned out to be so nearly perfect that no one could detect any lack of synchrony between the movements of the actors' lips and the sounds of their voices.

Returning to New York late in the afternoon the members of the commission were received by acting Mayor McAneny and members of the various committees which have been endeavoring to make their stay here pleasant and profitable. The reception took place at the Hotel Belmont. Mr. McAneny and William C. Breed, chairman of the Mayor's committee, felicitated the visitors, and Cheng Hsun-chang, chairman of the delegation, returned his thanks for the entertainment by the city.

The commissioners left at midnight for Providence, R. I., it being their intention to visit a number of Eastern cities before they leave for China on June 30.

WAR PREVENTS PARADE ON 4TH

Hoboken Commissioners Fear Trouble From Racial Reasons.

The Fourth of July parade in Hoboken will not be held this year because the City Commissioners fear the possibility of an anti-racial war dispute.

Last year when places in the line of march were assigned to the various clubs the committee in charge was swamped with letters of disapproval. The Austrians were not willing to march behind the Italian delegations, and so it went down the line. The disputes were settled then by allotting places according to the age of the various organizations.

The cosmopolitan population of Hoboken, with various attitudes on the European situation, gave the commissioners some reason for worry when the parade question came up and so as to avoid any possibility of a clash the idea was abandoned.

To make up for this a large display of fireworks will be given along the waterfront and band concerts will be given in the various parks.

SAMURI BILL GETS 3 YEARS.

Heaviest Drug Sentence Ever Imposed Here.

Judge John C. Pollock of Kansas City, temporarily assigned to the United States District Court here, imposed yesterday the heaviest sentence ever pronounced here for the mere possession of contraband drugs. He sent Charles Baldwin, otherwise known as Samri Bill Ellis, to Atlanta penitentiary for three years and fined him $2,000 for a violation of the Harrison law.

Baldwin might have got off easier had it not been for the recital of his criminal record by Assistant United States Attorney Harold A. Content, who told the Judge that the prisoner had been arrested once on suspicion of murder and that he had served several terms in jail.

At the time of his arrest Baldwin had a memorandum book containing data about prominent persons, which gave the police the idea that he was engaged in some kind of blackmailing scheme.

CENTRAL WINS RATE INCREASE VICTORY

Court of Appeals Upholds Commutation Fares Between City and Westchester.

STRONG POINT FOR ROADS

ALBANY, June 8.—Increases in the commutation rates between New York city and points in Westchester county made by the New York Central Railroad in 1910 were sustained by the Court of Appeals to-day. The decision of the court nullified an order of the up-State Public Service Commission to reduce the commutation rates to the amounts charged from 1907 to 1910.

The decision is a sweeping victory for the Central and it establishes the principle that railroads and not the State shall have the right to determine the general policy to be adopted in developing traffic conditions in newly developed territory.

The New York Central first increased its rates in 1907. This advance was followed by a second general increase in 1910. Complaint was made to the Public Service Commission that the second increase was uncalled for. In its decision the commission directed the company to reduce its rates to the standard fixed by the 1907 increase, declaring that the second increase was apparently for profit. An appeal to the Appellate Division resulted in the reversal of the order of the commission. This decision is sustained by the Court of Appeals.

The grounds upon which the order of the Public Service Commission's ruling was reversed are set up in a long opinion by Judge Hiscock, concurred in by his associates. This opinion, which affects thousands of commuters in the metropolitan district, in part follows:

"The naked fact that a railroad has established and continued a rate for a limited time does not justify the conclusion that it was profitable. It may have been established at an unprofitable figure as a result of miscalculation, compelling competition, or of a policy which was willing to endure temporary losses in the hope that there might ultimately be developed a profitable traffic. In the presence of proof showing the circumstances under and the results with which these lower rates were established and maintained no court has the right to presume and hold that they were profitable.

"In the second place, even if we should assume that these rates when established in 1907 were compensatory, in my opinion the presumption did not follow that this condition and result would indefinitely continue.

"It is true that the courts indulge in the presumption of the continuity of certain facts and conditions in the absence of proof to the contrary. Among such presumption are those of the continuance of life, intention, reputation, partnership, residence, &c. Sometimes these presumptions of continuity seem to be somewhat arbitrary and to have been adopted as a matter of convenience.

"As far as they rest upon any real basis that basis is common experience and observance, which justifies the belief that ordinarily when certain facts are established, it is safe to presume others. The mere fact that the rate has been raised carries with it no presumption that it was not rightfully done.

"While the counsel for the appellant seems to argue that in this proceeding the burden did not rest upon the complainants of establishing that the rates complained of were unreasonable I think that the proposition that the complainants did not have such a burden is scarcely debatable. They were attacking certain rates as unreasonable and asking that those rates should be reduced, and the burden rested upon them as a means of securing this relief of supplying the evidence to show that the rates were unreasonable and that they were entitled to the relief which was being sought and which in fact had been granted."

In conclusion the opinion says that the question what general policy should be adopted by the respondent in developing suburban trade was one to be decided by it and not by the State. The methods and rates which it would apply to the development of any policy were subjects for regulation, but the question whether the welfare of the road would be best subserved by one policy or another was a subject to be decided by the officers and stockholders of the corporation.

"It seems to me that the commission was more or less influenced by this consideration, which was irrelevant," says Judge Hiscock.

CROPSEY DWELLS ON GROUT DUMMIES

Counsel for Ex-Comptroller Denies Concerns Were Part of Union Bank.

FIGHT OVER PROCEDURE

Evidence purporting to show that several dummy concerns operated in connection with the defunct Union Bank of Brooklyn were actually part of the bank itself was contested yesterday by Stephen C. Baldwin, counsel for ex-City Comptroller Edward M. Grout, who is on trial before County Judge Lewis and a jury, charged with perjury in connection with a false bank statement sent to the State Banking Department just two days before the second collapse of the institution.

The evidence consisted of several bonds and mortgages, the largest for $94,500, which were identified by witnesses as figuring in an intricate transaction whereby the Union Bank secured funds from the Metropolitan Trust Company to pay depositors a percentage on their deposits as stipulated in the reopening agreement.

Mr. Cropsey tried to show that the property involved was owned by the bank, although assigned and reassigned to bank clerks and dummy corporations to avoid carrying it on the books as "real estate owned"; that the mortgages, though second or third mortgages, actually exceeded the cost price of the property and therefore were utterly worthless; that the juggling was done to deceive; that the dummies were a part of the bank when they acted for it, and yet that a fraction of the debts incurred in this manipulation were carried not as debts but as assets in the false bank report of March 15, 1910.

The two companies involved in this transaction were the Shetland and the Orr Construction companies. Mr. Cropsey showed that these companies were officered by bank clerks and their capital stock was owned by the bank. They were used, he held, for giving dummy notes secured by bank collateral and for covering real estate transactions. In objecting to the effort to bring this before the jury Mr. Baldwin said:

"If the District Attorney is going to try to prove that these companies were a part of the bank we should have an opportunity to meet the contention on legal grounds. In this connection the whole theory is erroneous. Each one of these companies is a separate entity, organized and conducted according to law, absolutely distinct from the bank."

Mr. Baldwin held that the practice of organizing corporations as followed by the Union Bank is customary. He also objected on the ground that it had not been shown that Mr. Grout had knowledge of the transactions into which the District Attorney was delving.

Judge Lewis ruled that the fact would have to be established before guilty knowledge could be proved, and permitted Mr. Cropsey to proceed. Half a dozen witnesses were called in an effort to establish the fact.

The trial will go on to-day.

SUES ON "AFTER DEATH" NOTE.

Asserts He Was Promised $50,000 for Saving Batcheller's Life.

H. H. Topakyan, a rug manufacturer who was formerly Persian Consul-General in New York, has brought suit in the Supreme Court against the estate of George Clinton Batcheller, manufacturer of women's wearing apparel, who died on January 25 last, to recover on an alleged note for $50,000 executed by Mr. Batcheller on November 3 last. Topakyan asserts that the note was made because he saved Mr. Batcheller from being run over by an automobile in Broadway a year ago.

The note says: "Ten days after my death I promise to pay to the order of my friend H. H. Topakyan, who saved my life, $50,000 at my bank or 130 Fifth avenue."

Mr. Batcheller's will contained no reference to the note and the executors rejected to Topakyan's claim when he asked for $50,000. Ex-Judge Alfred P. W. Seaman, one of the executors, said yesterday concerning the note:

"Mr. Batcheller was a normal man in every respect and not of the kind who would sit down and make out a note for $50,000 to another who might have claimed to have dragged him from in front of an automobile."

SUITS FOR $500,000,000 OIL LANDS WON BY U. S.

Southern Pacific Road Decided Against in Los Angeles District Court.

WASHINGTON, June 8.—The Department of Justice has received a telegram from the United States District Attorney at Los Angeles reporting a favorable decision in the District Court there of six suits for the return to the Government of oil lands valued at $500,000,000. The lands are now held by the Southern Pacific Railroad under patents before the Government knew that they contained oil. One plan considered for the disposal of these lands in the event that they were regained from the defendant railroad provides for setting them apart as reserve oil fields for the navy.

Here is the announcement issued by the Department of Justice:

"The patents for these lands were issued more than six years prior to the institution of the suits and the railroad company filed motions to dismiss the Government's bills upon the ground that the suits were barred by the statute of limitations, the act of March 2, 1896, providing that no suit should be brought to cancel patents after six years after the date of their issue. The Government contended that the patents were secured by fraudulent representations of the railroad company's agents that the lands were not mineral when in fact they were mineral and were known to be so at the time of their selection and at the time of the issue of the patents; that the railroad company had devised a scheme whereby its fraud in securing the patents was concealed and that such fraud did not become known until a comparatively short time before the bills were filed.

"The railroad company also contended that the Government's bills did not sufficiently show that the lands were valuable for their mineral contents.

"The decision of the court upholds the Government's bills in every particular and constitutes a sweeping victory for the Government."

The news from Washington regarding the Los Angeles decision weakened the Southern Pacific stock yesterday on the exchange. The Southern Pacific had not received word about the suits and in authoritative circles it was believed that a preliminary motion of the company to dismiss the suits had merely been denied by the court.

The Southern Pacific won its case on these oil lands in the Supreme Court. The court ruled, however, that the Government could bring another suit if it alleged fraud. This the Government did two days before the limitation of time within which the suit could be filed. The company expresses great confidence in its ability to win.

NEW WIRETAPPING ARREST.

O'Reilly Picks Out Man in Street as Gondorf Aid.

William O'Reilly, the Toronto man who charges Fred Gondorf and others with swindling him out of $17,400 in a wiretapping game, caused the arrest yesterday of another man he says was in the group.

O'Reilly, accompanied by Assistant District Attorney O'Malley and two detectives, was riding uptown on a Broadway surface car after a visit to a Wall street bank when he pointed to a man in the crowd at Murray street and Broadway and said: "There's one of the men who was in the gang." The detectives immediately arrested this man and charged him with acting with Gondorf in the swindle.

The prisoner said he was Charles Henderson, 57, a salesman of 332 Seventy-second street, Brooklyn.

Another alleged wiretapper, Frank T. Thompson, was brought to the city yesterday on extradition from New Jersey charged with acting with Harry Lewis, now in the Tombs, in swindling a Milwaukee man. Thompson, accompanied by his wife of a few days, who was Miss Catherine Bradley and who put up bail for him which he jumped a couple of weeks ago, was admitted to $10,000 bail by Judge Mulqueen. A minute afterward he was rearrested on a charge of causing a Bayonne saloon keeper to lose $5,000 in a fake gambling house on the upper West Side.

STATE LABOR BUREAU PLACED 4,232 IN JOBS

Calls for Help Are Being Made Now for Higher Priced Positions.

ALBANY, June 8.—Calls for help made to all branch offices of the State Labor Department's Employment Bureau during May were for better paying positions than during previous months, says a bulletin issued by the department to-day. So far 4,232 positions have been filled.

The male departments in several offices have been placing many persons in good positions. In the women's departments, especially in the Brooklyn office, there has been a falling off in the number of calls for low priced domestics, with a corresponding increase in the demands for better paid women. The bulletin says that the offices endeavored to place their better registrations at higher wages, urging housekeepers to obtain better help by paying better wages.

During May the bureau received 2,463 orders for help, an average of about 100 calls a working day, and referred 2,843 persons to positions. There are now registered in the five branch offices 27,938 applications for work.

In the male departments metals and machinery led in the number of calls, the total for the month being 334. Agriculture came next, there being requests for 199 farm hands. Building and construction closely followed, with 189 calls.

In the women's departments domestic and personal service led, with 571 calls. Calls from hotels and restaurants totalled 180. Clothing, millinery and furnishings was third on the list, with 108 calls.

During the last month four of the offices commenced to take renewals, and 1,116 persons renewed their applications for work. Since the opening of the bureau, about the beginning of the year, 5,762 employers filed 8,557 requests for help. The offices in that time referred 9,956 persons to positions, of which 4,232 were filled.

The bureau's offices are in Brooklyn, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo and Albany.

Reading Girl Falls to Death.

While seated yesterday afternoon on the coping of the roof of her home, 732 Franklin avenue, Brooklyn, reading a book, Ruth McLean, 14 years old, lost her balance and fell four stories to the stone pavement of the yard. Ambulance Surgeon Sugarman of the Jewish Hospital said the girl had been killed instantly.

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