

PRaise HEAPED ON ROOSEVELT FOR RATE BILL

Congratulations Pour In, Lauding President for Notable Victory.

Measure Logical Outcome of the Granger Movement of 1868.

Interstate Commerce Act First Important National Step in Evolution.

Cullom in Both Debates—Wins Devotion in Last.

By W. W. Jermans.

WASHINGTON, May 19.—While the interest of the general public is focused on the rate bill just put thru the senate, it will be pertinent to recall the facts which led up to the enactment of the original interstate commerce act, in 1887.

That law was the logical outcome of the so-called granger movement, which started away back in 1868. Six years after its inception, this movement had attracted 1,500,000 followers. There was a great depression in the farming interests at the time, which the grangers insisted was due to exorbitant freight rates. In the east the farmers complained that the freight rates from St. Louis, Chicago and other grain centers to the Atlantic were less than the local charges for 200 miles and brought the high-priced farms of the east in direct competition with the cheap, virgin land of the prairies. Out on the prairies the local rates to Chicago and St. Louis were so high that for a number of years the use of corn for fuel was common.

The subject of interstate commerce came up in congress and the railroad members and railroad attorneys contended that congress had nothing to do with it.

First Rate Regulation.

In the meantime the legislatures of several states undertook to regulate rates. In Illinois the state railroad commission fixed a maximum rate for passengers of 3 cents a mile. In November, 1875, in the case of The People vs. the Chicago & Alton Railroad company, the United States circuit court affirmed the constitutionality of the law under which this was done. In several of the granger cases the supreme court affirmed the right of the states to regulate railway charges. During the period of railway agitation three things caused great public dissatisfaction:

First—Unequal charges for the same service, accomplished by secret rebates to favored shippers.

Second—Unequal charges caused by higher rates for the part of a distance than for the entire distance.

Third—The destruction of competition by pooling receipts and dividing them according to a percentage agreed upon.

Effect of Prohibiting Poolings.

By the rebate system the Standard Oil company, as shown by the congressional investigation, had driven most of its competitors out of business and had established a virtual monopoly which has continued down to the present time. Therefore the interstate commerce act prohibited pooling. But this prohibition did not restore competition. It simply stimulated the railroad companies to find some means to evade the law, and this was done by the community-of-interests plan. This plan is for one line to obtain control of its rivals by leasing them or by buying or having its friends buy a large portion of its stock.

The Pennsylvania company has secured virtual control of the Baltimore & Ohio by acquiring \$40,000,000 of the \$105,000,000 stock of that company. The Union Pacific got \$85,000,000 of Southern Pacific stock and was then enabled to dictate rates over a line which was intended as a competitor.

This system is familiar to readers of The Journal by reason of the operations of James J. Hill, who has obtained virtual stock control of the Northern Pacific and the Burlington roads, in addition to controlling the Great Northern. The merger of a number of southern railways by the Southern Railway company is another case in point.

President Favors Pooling.

The president is now convinced that it would be good public policy to restore the pooling privilege, in order that the carrying companies may better protect themselves against the great shipping combinations, the lack of protection being one of the main excuses offered for these mergers; but

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ALARM IS FELT OVER CONDITION OF POPE

Illness of Pius X. More Serious than the Vatican Will Admit.

By Publishers' Press.

ROME, May 19.—Dr. Lapponi is spending the night at the Vatican in readiness to meet any call which might come from the sick room of Pope Pius X. This fact alone has caused great apprehension among members of the pope's entourage.

There is no doubt that the condition of the pope is more serious than the members of the Vatican will admit. His holiness has been confined to the Vatican thru the natural weakness of his heart, which has more or less troubled him for years, and has steadily grown worse.

Overwork, close confinement and lack of exercise have undermined the pontiff's health. He has had several attacks of heart failure but the present one is the most serious of all.

Fails to Rally.

The pope has been ill since Thursday, but his sickness was first diagnosed as gout, which has been more or less common with him for some time. Yesterday, however, he was attacked again by the old heart weakness and practically collapsed. It was at first thought that the attack was no more serious



POPE PIUS X. Who is Critically Ill.

than the former ones. His holiness, however, failed to rally as quick as Dr. Lapponi expected. In fact, he grew weaker, and in view of the nature of the attack, alarming fears were aroused among the Vatican officials.

The two aged sisters of the pontiff, on hearing of their brother's illness, hastened to the Vatican and insisted on being allowed to nurse the patient. They are in charge of the sick room under Dr. Lapponi's instructions.

"The Rock in the Baltic"

The second installment of this thrilling new serial by Robert Barr will be found on Page 6 of the editorial section, this issue.

Don't Miss It

FOREST FIRES UNDER CONTROL

Fortunate Change of Wind Relieves the Tension in the Peninsula.

Large Forces of Fire Fighters Organized—Loss Is Over a Million.

Following are the estimated losses of lumber and railroad companies in Delta county: Stephenson company and Escanaba & Lake Superior Railroad company, \$50,000. Pittsburg & Lake Superior Iron company, \$5,000. Kellogg Switchboard and Supply company, \$10,000. Mashchek Coal & Iron company, \$3,000. Escanaba Woodenware company, \$5,000. John Duncan, jobber at Kingsley, \$3,000. Joseph Charlebois, jobber at Woodlawn, \$2,000. The above losses do not include the great damage to standing timber, the destruction of many small sawmills, operated by independent concerns, houses, barns, etc., and from existence, of the homes of hundreds of homesteaders.

By Publishers' Press.

ESCANABA, Mich., May 19.—Forest fires, which have been raging over a district 100 miles square in the peninsula for thirty-six hours, are tonight believed to be under control after having caused a loss estimated at over \$1,000,000. Superintendent W. F. Wells of the Escanaba & Lake Superior railway, returned at 6 o'clock tonight from an inspection, tour thru the burned district traversed by the line and reports that the progress of the flames in Dickinson, Marquette and Menominee counties has been stopped.

Assistant General Superintendent W. D. Cantillon, of the North-Western road, who was called here from Chicago last night, also returned shortly after 7 o'clock from an inspection of the several branch lines of that company in the peninsula. According to Mr. Cantillon the damage to the company's property is not as great as was at first reported. Also several large fires are burning at several points along the line, large forces of fire fighters have been organized and it is believed that with the change in the direction of the wind,

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'ADS' OF EVANGELIST, UNDER FIRE, UPHELD



Rev. J. WILBUR CHAPMAN, Whose Methods of Advertising His Revival Meetings Were Upheld by a General Church Committee.

CHAPMAN'S PLAN WINS APPROVAL

Famous Preacher's Methods Sanctioned by Presbyterian Committee.

Smokers, Too, Triumph Against Opposition and Are Not Barred.

Special to The Journal.

DES MOINES, Iowa, May 19.—In the general assembly of the Presbyterian church today the committee on evangelistic work held an exciting session in which J. Wilbur Chapman's methods were upheld. Chapman will be retained at the head of the evangelistic organization, according to Chairman Converse. Many ministers are objecting to his methods of advertising. They claim it is as extensive as patent medicine advertising department and feel that it is more advertisement of the man Chapman than his beliefs.

The committee agreed that newspaper advertising is good locally during a revival, but condemned telegraphic reports calculated more to boost the evangelist than the cause.

Refuses to Oust Smokers.

The church affairs committee this afternoon endorsed the action of the general church federation in seeking a conference soon for the union of all churches in protestantism. The temperance committee today refused to put tobacco alongside of liquor in its report. The contention was made that a member should be barred as much for smoking as drinking, but the strongest plea for a unicameral legislature, is a debater of great force. Kabilotny of Podolsk province, who voiced the demand for the abolition of the death penalty for political agitation, is a lawyer of large practice and absolutely committed to the peasant program.

Will Strike Heavy Blows. Maxim Kovalevsky, the free lance of the dooms, will bear watching. Many of his kinsmen have perished as political exiles in the Siberian mines, and he is the stuff of which French revolutionists were made.

When it is borne in mind that "such intellectuals" as Professor Stechepkin of Odessa and Professor Kusmin-Karaviet, an authority on military law, are more than half inclined to cast their lot with the social democrats in forming a party of the extreme left, committed to the most drastic enforcement of the wishes of the overwhelming majority, it is impossible to doubt that the bills to be introduced will strike heavy blows at the structure of autocracy.

Czar Heard by Phone.

Stechepkin's memorable utterance, "not all of us are now in sympathy with the tactics of the revolutionists, but events alone can decide our course," made as profound an impression at Kusmin-Karaviet's pointed allusion to the fate of Louis XVI. It is said that the czar has listened to the discussions over a telephone wire. The report that Nicholas was taking this method of learning the will of the people not only failed to deter the peasant representatives from speaking their full minds, but, as a St. Petersburg correspondent suggests, seemed to provoke them to more specific declarations. It would take a bold minister to repeat to the emperor the fierce warnings of Kusmin-Karaviet, which not even Danton could have made more impressive.

Bureaucracy Aghast.

Bureaucracy is aghast at the defiant tone of the dooms' controlling groups. Even Witte is perplexed. He told his friends on the eve of the assembling that "they never can survive the sight of the Little Father in his robes of state."

He meant, of course, that the peasants' inherited submissiveness to the czar would make for legislative tractability. There could not have been a more serious misunderstanding of the spirit of the leaders.

Die Has Been Cast.

Whatever the early future of parliament, the die has been cast. No repression could stamp out the moral effect of this week's deliberations at the Tauride palace. Nicholas is anxious to compromise, but the dooms, rapidly discovering its virtual solidarity, is not to be placated with half-way measures. Witte looks on gloomily, perhaps expectantly. The stories about his falling health are contradicted by his appearance and his energy in the council of the empire, where he has gravitated to the most influential position.

Coremykin's tactics have accomplished nothing save to widen the distance between the crown and parliament. Witte may yet be the buttress of the autocracy.

'Reds' See Conflict.

By Publishers' Press.

Paris, May 20.—Great activity among the Russian revolutionists, who have

Continued on 2d Page, 8d Column.

BOLD RUSSIANS AMAZE EUROPE BY THEIR SKILL

Peasants Hold Own With "Intellectuals" in Douma Debates.

Leaning of Famous Men Toward Radicals Portends Trouble.

Czar Said to Have Heard Fiery Speeches of Week Thru Telephone.

Half-Way Measures Will Not Placate Thoroughly Aroused Delegates.

By Publishers' Press.

LONDON, March 19.—Europe is astounded by the skill with which the newly created Russian legislators have addressed themselves to the most stupendous task that has ever confronted a parliament. So far from proving to be a mob of ignorant and disorderly interlopers, the representatives of the peasants turn out to be men capable of holding their own in debate and in the constructive work of the dooms with the "intellectuals." Several have impressed non-Russian on-lookers as men of exceptional talents.

Nazarenko is a fiery orator, with a wide command of language, a ringing voice and the gesticulation of a trained speaker. Kisleff of Panza, who made the strongest plea for a unicameral legislature, is a debater of great force. Kabilotny of Podolsk province, who voiced the demand for the abolition of the death penalty for political agitation, is a lawyer of large practice and absolutely committed to the peasant program.

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Continued on 2d Page, 8d Column.

TEMPTS FATE TO REACH AMBITION

Aeronaut Takes Perilous Job to Get Funds for Longer Flight.

New York Herald Special Service.

New York, May 19.—Joseph Wartscher, the famous German aeronaut, has signed a contract with Thompson & Dundy, whereby he agrees to ascend in his airship from Lunik Park, sail several miles out to sea, and descend into the Atlantic, where he will be rescued by a steam yacht which will follow his course. The feat will be performed next Wednesday and Wartscher extends an invitation to six persons to accompany him.

If the trip is successful, Thompson & Dundy have agreed to provide \$25,000 to enable Wartscher to build and equip a balloon to fly from here to Europe, his long-cherished ambition. The start will be made from Lunik Park in August and Wartscher is sure he can make the trip in four or five days.

PRINCE AS AERONAUT

Austrian of House of Bourbon Will Try Flight Across Channel.

New York Herald Special Service.

LONDON, May 19.—An Austrian prince of the house of Bourbon and Lieutenant Josef Ritter von Korwin, a noted Austrian army aeronaut, arrived in London tonight preparatory to making an attempt to cross the English channel in a balloon. The ascension will be made any day next week when the wind is favorable. The daring royal aeronaut and his associate hope to reach the other side of the channel in a direct line.

The trip will be made in the interest of the Austrian government. The British army officers take much interest in the undertaking. The last previous balloon flight across the channel was made by a Frenchman.

WED AS SHE DIES, SHOT BY FIANCE

Pittsburg Girl Mortally Wounded, by Accident, by Betrothed.

New York Herald Special Service.

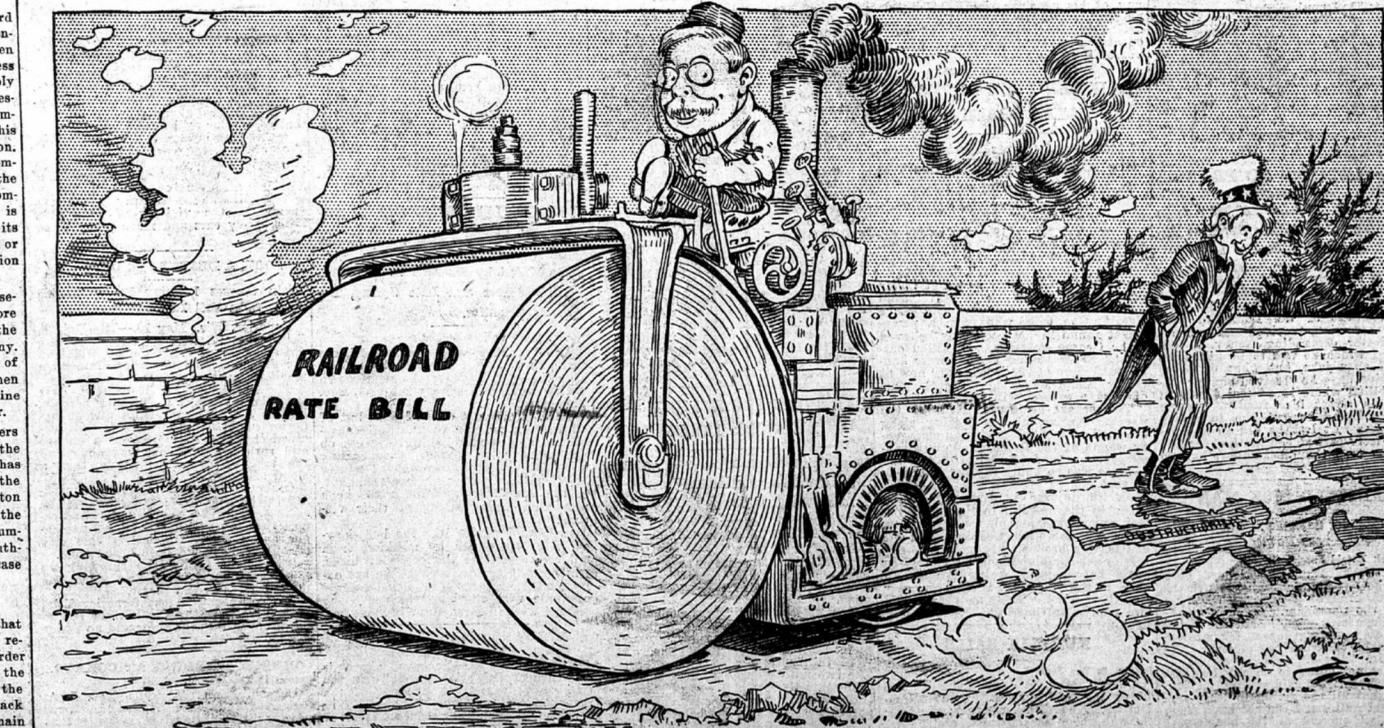
Pittsburg, May 19.—Within a few hours of the one set for their marriage today, Davis J. Coldren accidentally shot his fiancée, Bessie Reppert, while they were arranging the furniture in their new home at 418 Budd street. The wound has been pronounced mortal. No sooner had the girl been informed that she would probably die than she asked that Father O'Connor be sent for, and while she lay gasping for breath upon a cot in the Presbyterian hospital the marriage ceremony was performed. It was followed by the last rites of the church. A policeman then arrested Coldren and took him away.

TEXAS WOMAN KILLED THRU SON'S CARELESSNESS

Young Man Discharges Dynamite to Destroy Snakes, but Flying Piece of Wood Gives Mother Fatal Wound.

Special to The Journal.

Fort Worth, Tex., May 19.—Near Weatherford, Parker county, a young man by the name of Carr discovered a nest of snakes in an old stump in the yard and placed two sticks of dynamite in the stump to blow it up. His mother was standing near and the force of the explosion was so great that a fragment of the stump struck her on the head, injuring her so badly that death resulted in a short time.



THE PASSING OF THE RATE BILL.