

BUS DECISION STIRS WAR ON UTILITIES BODY

Abolition by Congress Demanded to End "Oppression of Street Car Monopoly"

LEGISLATORS IN WRATH Accuse Commission of Trying To "Starve Out" Motor Lines in City

"When Congress abolishes the Public Utilities Commission of the District, and not until then, will the people get relief from the oppression of the local street car monopoly."

This statement was made yesterday by Congressman Elliott W. Sproul of Illinois, following the decision of the commission that the bus lines should be feeders for the street car companies, and not seek to rob them of business.

"The traction problem in Chicago has become more involved because of the utilities commission in that city and the same situation exists here, Sproul charged.

CALLS CAR SERVICE BAD.

"This decision of the Public Utilities Commission should cause the abolition of that body immediately," was the comment of Congressman William C. Hammer of North Carolina, author of a bill to accomplish this purpose.

"There has been a growing sentiment against the commission and this proposal to give the present street car companies a monopoly, at the expense of all other means of transportation, should crystallize into a concerted effort to have it destroyed," Hammer declared.

"It would be a different story if the traction companies were giving good service at a reasonable rate of fare, but they are not," he insisted.

"The commission expresses solicitude for the street car companies but it would generously allow the bus companies to operate in the sections of the city where they would starve to death.

"What Washington wants is someone to operate the traction service who can make money. The street car company offers the most resistance to the bus lines, insists that it cannot make a living as an excuse for a high rate of fare and poor service, while the bus company competing, claims that it can, if allowed a fair chance. In the face of this the commission would disregard the demand of the people for additional and adequate service in order to protect the traction company," Hammer emphasized.

ASKS FOR ACTION.

"It is obvious to all who have followed the actions of the utilities commission, that in this capacity it has accomplished little to improve the situation. The remedy lies in Congress and the quicker it abolishes the commission and all laws promulgated by that body, assumes the responsibility for the destinies of the Capital's transportation system, the better for the people who are compelled to ride in the street cars."

The issue, it was predicted by several members of the House District Committee, would become a live one before the end of the session. A poll of the members of the committee shows that the sentiment is against supporting the present merger bill for the reason that it would permit the consolidation of the Washington Railway and Electric Company with the Potomac Electric Power Company.

It is being planned, it was learned, to substitute a more drastic measure for the present bill when it is brought up.

Indian Race Increases 13,500 in Past Decade

The Indian race is not a dying one. E. B. Merritt, assistant Indian Commissioner, says the 340,917 Indians now in the United States represent an increase of approximately 13,500 over the number ten years ago.

The increase has been brought about, the Assistant Commissioner says, by improved housing conditions and increased hospital and medical facilities. There are seventy-eight hospitals at the Indian reservation and about 1,000 there are employed in the Indian service 150 physicians, eighty-one nurses and seventy field matrons, the latter visiting the homes of Indians to improve living conditions.

"We are educating in our Indian schools and in the public schools of the country 60,000 Indian children," Mr. Merritt says.

Little Boy Shot to Death During Family Wrangle

MAPLEWOOD, Va., Nov. 25.—Luther Hundley and his wife were struggling for possession of a shotgun when the weapon was discharged and the load of shot entered the breast of Mrs. Hundley's nine-year-old son, killing him instantly.

An inquest was held and details of the accident brought out that Hundley and his wife had been having some words and Hundley started to leave the house with the gun. His wife thought he meant to shoot himself, as he had threatened suicide, and undertook to take the gun from him. The boy was named Cook, son of a former husband of Mrs. Hundley. The verdict of the inquest was accidental shooting.

Planting New Orchards in Shenandoah Valley

WINCHESTER, Va., Dec. 2.—Acres of valuable land in several Shenandoah Valley counties and nearby West Virginia territory are being planted to apple orchards, in spite of an almost total crop failure in 1921, due to late frosts and freezes, and also a greatly reduced crop this year from the same cause.

Experienced orchard men have an abiding faith in the industry's future in this section of the State, and just now a vigorous campaign is being carried on to emphasize the importance of growing and packing a superior quality of fruit.

Old Capital of Thrace Surrendered to Turks

CONSTANTINOPLE, Nov. 25.—Adrianople, chief city of Thrace and formerly the capital, was formally turned over to the Turks today by the allied military authorities.

The first thing the Turks did after taking over the civil administration was to hang several leaders of the Turkish counter revolutionary movement in Thrace. Others were clapped into prison.

Henry Ford Buys Coal Mine in West Virginia

NEW YORK, Nov. 25.—In accord for himself all raw materials required for him self all raw materials required for the manufacturer of automobiles Henry Ford has bought a coal mine for \$1,250,000 according to report carried here by a news ticker company.

Mr. Ford's mine is known as the Dex Car Colliery and is situated in the non-union field at Davey, McDowell county, W. Va., on the line

of the Norfolk & Western railroad. Its monthly output is from 20,000 to 40,000 tons.

Judge Ritz to Resign From W. Va. High Court

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Nov. 25.—Judge Harold A. Ritz has tendered his resignation as a member of the State supreme court of appeals to become effective at an indefinite date.

Judge Ritz will become a member of the Charleston law firm of Brown, Jackson and Knight, from which Mr. Jackson is retiring.

Had Husband One Hour; Never Saw Him Again

NEW YORK, Nov. 25.—Mrs. Jeanette M. Fort, who was married to Wilbur L. Fort January 25, 1919, when he was a sailor in the navy, sued for an annulment before Supreme Court Justice Faber, of Brooklyn, under the Enoch Arden law. She testified that she and her husband dined together following their marriage, and that an hour afterward Fort left her, saying he must go back to his ship but that he would write to her.

She said she later received a letter, in which he said he could not be her husband and that she should never expect to see him again. She never did, she said. Decision was reserved.

Man Who Assailed Judge In Speech Must Pay \$25

RICHMOND, Va., Nov. 25.—The supreme court of appeals has affirmed the conviction of Thomas E. Boorde of contempt of court because of language he used in referring to Judge P. H. Dillard of the Bedford county circuit court. Boorde was fined \$25.

Boorde, in addressing a meeting at Hunting Creek church while the Baptist Strawberry association was in progress, was quoted as saying: "Brave revenue officers risk their lives right here in Bedford county only to have the law evaders, whom they have taken such efforts to

Kansas Pastor Outwits Sunday Baseball Fans

WASHINGTON, Kan., Nov. 25.—The Rev. M. P. Cox, of this town, didn't like baseball. Instead of preaching against it he organized a league of church teams.

They played midweek, regularly scheduled contests and everybody, even the players, forgot about Sunday games.

catch, acquitted by a 'wet' judge. I am speaking of Judge P. H. Dillard, and in case any of his friends are present or should hear what I say today, my name is T. E. Boorde. How can we expect a judge to give fair decisions in cases where his sons make a practice of defending alleged culprits?"

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