

BILLS EXPOSE
EFFECTS
OF ROADS

Senator Johnson and I. C. C. Want Probe of System Called Menace to Country.

By WILLIAM HARD.

This talk about international affairs has quite obscured three smashing events in America's greatest business question. The greatest business question in America is not the state of Europe. It is the state of the equipment of American railroads. What is the use of getting so worried about carrying crops to Europe when our railroads are so frequently unable to provide the necessary equipment for carrying crops from California to Nevada—or coal from Scranton to New York? The equipment situation on American railroads is scandalous and menacing; and Washington now sees three vigorous blows struck at it in order to expose it and in order to improve it.

The first is the bill introduced into the United States Senate by Senator Johnson of California, boldly proposing that the Interstate Commerce Commission shall permit no railroad to declare dividend on its stock until the commission is satisfied that the equipment possessed and operated by the railroad is sufficient to meet "the reasonable requirements of the public which it serves."

The second is a sweeping order by the Interstate Commerce Commission decreeing and starting a complete inquiry into the present amount and condition of railroad equipment on all American railroads.

The third is the forthcoming action of the Interstate Commerce Commission on a petition presented to it by William H. Johnston, president of Machinists; and it is believed that this action will consist of an order declaring an investigation of certain named railroad companies in order to determine whether or not those companies are squandering their funds and ruining their supply of cars and locomotives by continuing their stubborn struggle against the unions of their striking shopcraft employes.

These three blows together are going to make a great many railroad companies in America feel extraordinarily grieved. Senator Johnson has accumulated figures to show that while a vast majority of farmers in the American West have been financially broken and bankrupted by the failure of the railroads to move their crops there are five Western railroads which in 1920 and 1921 were able not only to meet all the interest on their bonds, but also to pay out more than \$180,000,000 in profits on their stock.

Senator Johnson has taken the legislative lead in dealing with this prime question of American industry, and he has taken it by offering the following proposition as a suggested partial remedy: "Railroads are given the right to condemn property and to take it for railroad use because that use is for the service of the public. Railroad property is property dedicated to a public use. The railroads are bound to provide the means by which the public can be adequately served. They must therefore—after meeting the interest on their bonds—provide an adequate amount of equipment before they put aside money for profits for their stockholders."

In the last twenty-one years the railroads have continually gone downward, when they should have been going upward, in providing freight cars. In the years from 1900 to 1907 inclusive they built about 250,000 freight cars a year. In the years from 1907 to 1914 they built about 150,000 a year. In the years from 1914 to 1921 they built less than 100,000 a year. And this year they will build only about 60,000. Such are the figures recently supplied to government officials here.

Manifestly in such circumstances the railroads could take care of our growing railroad traffic only if they made a most efficient use of their existing equipment and kept it in splendid condition. Because of the strike, however, and because of the resistance of certain numerals to the roads to any sort of moderate compromise adjustment with their striking shopcraft employes, the condition of a large percentage of American railroad equipment today is wretched. On one of America's leading railroad systems—a system which is always advertising its harmonious relations with its men, but which in fact is conducting a perfectly logical fight against the skilled men who used to work for it and who are now still on strike, the percentage of out-of-order locomotives is forty-three. This railroad now has to get along with just fifty-seven out of each 100 locomotives which it owns.

On only a few of the railroads which are still holding out against a settlement with the strikers are equipment conditions tolerable. These railroads are accused—not only by union leaders, but by high governmental officials—with being willing to cripple the public service in order to indulge themselves in a fight against unions. If by fighting the unions they were improving the service to the public, the Interstate Commerce Commission could not touch them, and presumably would not wish to touch them. The situation actually revealed, however, is that by fighting the unions they have got themselves into a position in which they are responsibly charged with having greatly and gravely impaired and endangered their service to the shipping and traveling public; and the Interstate Commerce Commission is now about to touch them

JAZZ LEADER STARTS
ROW IN ENGLAND



Paul Specht, noted American musical director, composer and pianist, who recently upset the British Parliament and aroused the ire of the English press because of his exportation of American syncopated orchestras to London in competition with home-bred talent. English Musicians Unions have protested the importation of American orchestras, the matter being discussed at length before Parliament, where legislation was proposed to curb the American players.

DENIES LAYING FINLEY IS HEAD
TRAP FOR
GANG
OF MASONS
HERE

Prosecutor Given Explains Light Sentences to Negro Youths. Prominent Attorney Assumes New Duties—Officers of Grand Lodge.

Denial that his recommendation of a light sentence in the cases of Ralph Turner and Harold Moon, the two negro youths who yesterday admitted the larceny of an automobile tire in Police Court, was made to trap an alleged gang that had made a business of purchasing stolen automobile accessories, came from Ralph Given, United States prosecuting attorney in charge of Police Court.

He said the report attributed to him was entirely without foundation. "The only reason I recommended the low penalties for the negroes was that they are already serving long sentences for a series of larcenies. These were not wholly confined to automobile parts but also to hams, groceries and various other articles," the district attorney said.

Although the man who is believed to have bought the goods from the boys is being held at the Seventh precinct, it is not due to any special effort on the part of the authorities to clean up that form of violation. His arrest is but a slip of the finger into a bucket of water.

TROLLEY STRIKES AUTO AND INJURES DRIVER
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 28.—Charles McCaughey was seriously hurt last night when a trolley car struck his auto at Eighth and Cumberland streets and knocked him head-first from his seat to the pavement.

He was taken to the Episcopal Hospital, where he was found that he has a fractured shoulder and internal injuries. with inquiries which it is believed will mark an epoch in American public railroad regulation. Previous regulation has been largely negative. The regulation which will tend to be produced by the inquiries into the condition of equipment will be positive. It will be for the enforcement of service. These inquiries fall in therefore aptly and neatly with the new statute proposed by Senator Johnson. The Interstate Commerce Commission is undertaking to study equipment, properties. The commission has an indirect right to compel equipment through its right to demand an "efficient" management for the enforcement of service. Senator Johnson together will make the railroad question an extremely intense one by the time next year's crops are planted.

What's Doing Today
and Tomorrow

- TODAY.
Celebration—Woodrow Wilson Day, all day.
Meeting—Kentucky Society, Franklin Square Hotel, 8 p. m.
Party—For soldiers, sailors and marines in hospitals, Women's Universal Alliance, Massachusetts and W streets northwest, evening.
Meeting—Art Section, Twentieth Century Club, 8 p. m.
Lecture—By Allen Tucker, First Baptist Church, Sixteenth and O streets, Subject: "Incarnation of the New Year," 8 p. m.
Meeting—Bible class of Women's City Club, 22 Jackson place northwest, 8 p. m.
Dance—Argyle Country Club, Georgia ave. and Decatur st.
Meeting—Kit Carson Post No. 2, Grand Army Hall, 1412 Pennsylvania avenue northwest, evening.
Meeting—Iowa State Society, Ebbitt Hotel, evening.

HANNIS TAYLOR
INTERMENT
HERE

Rites Tomorrow at St. Matthew's for Noted Diplomat and Legal Authority.

Funeral services for Hannis Taylor, former minister to Spain and noted author and lawyer, who died at the Washington Sanitarium yesterday of bright's disease, will be held tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock in St. Matthew's Church. The Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Shahan, rector of the Catholic University; the Rt. Rev. William P. Russell, of South Carolina, and the Rev. Edward L. Buckley, of St. Matthew's Church, will officiate. Interment will be private in the Rock Creek Cemetery.

Mr. Taylor, who was seventy-one years of age, was the author of several books on constitutional law and was considered an authority on this subject. His first book, a treatise on England and American constitutional law, is used as a text book in the law schools of the country. It is also widely used in many foreign countries. Shortly after its publication Mr. Taylor was appointed minister to Spain by President Cleveland. He served in this capacity for four years returning to this country in 1917.

Resumed Work Here.
Following his diplomatic career, Mr. Taylor resumed his law work and writings. Other publications to his credit are "International Public Law," "Jurisdiction and Procedure of the Supreme Court of the United States," "Cicero, a Commentary on Roman Constitution and Roman Public Life," and "Due Process of Law and the Equal Protection of the Laws."

Mr. Taylor was at one time professor of constitutional and international law at the George Washington University, and at the time of his retirement he was teaching at the Georgetown Law School. He was one of the counsel for the Government before the Spanish treaty claims commission.

Achieved Many Honors.
He received the degree of LL. D. from the University of Dublin, and the same honor was conferred on him by the University of Edinburgh.

Mr. Taylor was born in New Bern, N. C., September, 1851. He was admitted to the bar in 1870 and practiced in Mobile, Ala., for twenty years.

He is survived by his wife, two daughters, Mrs. Clay Bailey and Mrs. Reid Hunt, and three sons, Hannis Taylor, Jr., Alfred R. Taylor and Charles Taylor.

DRIVER KILLS MAN WHO
WAS BAFFLED BY FOG

BALTIMORE, Dec. 28.—The death of an unidentified man last night was attributed to the dense fog which for two nights shrouded the city in a blanket of thick, Londonlike mist.

Carlus Marshall, while driving an auto truck along East Lombard street about 8 p. m., failed to see a man who crossed Lombard at Exeter street until it was too late to avoid knocking him down. The man, about fifty-five or sixty years old, was picked up unconscious.

GIRL AT MOVIE 7 HOURS;
POLICE SEEK HER AS LOST

BALTIMORE, Dec. 28.—It was a good movie, so Ethel Fernandez, ten years old, told her parents last night. That's why she remained to see it three times and spent altogether seven hours in the picture house. What Ethel's parents told her isn't recorded, but perhaps may be surmised.

BABY WITH SMALLPOX
FOUND AT BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE, Dec. 28.—What is thought to be the first case of smallpox in Baltimore in several years was investigated yesterday by Dr. C. Hanpion Jones, commissioner of health. The patient is a white male infant fourteen months old, living in Gardenville.

Dr. Jones last night said the child had been ill two weeks. According to the parents, the infant has not been away from their home since Thanksgiving Day. Dr. Jones said the disease developed about that time. He was unable, he said, to trace the source of infection. The household has been quarantined. Final disposition of the case will be made today.

BETHESDA'S TAX
ASSESSMENT
DOUBLED

Montgomery County Values Being Increased 5 to 100 Per Cent.

ROCKVILLE, Dec. 28.—The work of assessing all real and personal property in the county, as directed by the State Tax Commission, is said to be progressing satisfactorily. The assessments so far made indicate that the assessors are increasing the assessments on Bethesda district property more than 100 per cent, and are also very greatly increasing the assessment on Wheaton district property. In the other districts the increase is understood to be running from 5 to 30 per cent.

The fact that the prospective bridegroom was a few months "shy" of twenty-one years of age prevented the marriage here today. Miss Ella V. Spicer and Nathan Gardner, both of Fredericksburg, Va. The young man failed to bring with him the written consent of his parents, as the law requires of minors. The county clerk refused to issue the license.

Associate Justice James C. McReynolds, of the United States Supreme Court, is among those obtaining hunting licenses today. The distinguished jurist made application by telephone and a license was promptly mailed to him. It is understood Justice McReynolds had planned to hunt ducks on the lower Potomac during the holidays.

Announcement has been made of the marriage in Frederick, Md., of Miss Eva Haines, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Haines, of Etchison, and Lester Linden, of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Haines entertained in honor of the couple at a reception at their home Monday evening.

Funeral services for Philip B. Souder, former county commissioner and retired farmer, who died at his home near Damascus early Tuesday morning, took place yesterday afternoon from the Methodist Episcopal Church, at Damascus, many from various parts of the county and elsewhere attending. The services were conducted by the Rev. M. A. Lineweaver, and burial was in the cemetery nearby. Mr. Souder was sixty-seven years old.

Carson Ward, of Gaithersburg, has tendered his resignation as assistant county treasurer, and will sever his connection with the office next Saturday. Inadequate salary is understood to be the cause of his retirement. County Treasurer John Gardner will appoint his successor within the next few days.

FIELD BAILED
ON ASSAULT
CHARGE

Released Under \$5,000 Bond in Alleged Attack on Young Arlington Co. Girl.

CLARENDON, Va., Dec. 28.—Frank Field, under arrest charged with assaulting a fifteen-year-old girl, was released on \$5,000 bond yesterday. Field has been in jail since September 1. He was due to come up for trial the last term of court, but this was prevented by the illness of Judge Samuel G. Brent. His case has been set for the February term.

J. H. Jackson, colored, was arrested in the Ballston postoffice yesterday by Special Officer Howard W. Smoot. Smoot charged the man was drunk and fighting.

The committee of the Civic Federation which is considering plans for the Rosslyn terminal has increased in membership yesterday. New members are W. J. Ingraham, Aurora Heights; H. M. Masoh, Cherrydale, and J. Thomas Manning, Clarendon.

DUPONT CIRCLE CITIZENS
WILL FIGHT FOR SCHOOLS

Following a meeting of the executive committee of the Dupont Circle Citizens Association last night, it was announced that a campaign is to be waged by the organization for school improvements and higher salaries for teachers. The following committee chairman were appointed: Streets, Capt. A. F. Gore; education, Snowden Ashford; health, Dr. L. W. Glazebrook; parks, Mrs. Richard Wainwright; utilities, A. K. Phillips; membership, T. Percy Meyers; law and legislation, Capt. C. E. Emig; recreation, Dr. E. L. Lemperle; taxation, C. H. Bradley; housing, Mrs. Archibald Hopkins; publicity, Miss Elizabeth Poe; program, Mrs. William B. Ridgely; art and architecture, Miss Lella Mechlin.

SECRET SERVICE HEAD OF
IRISH FREE STATE HERE

HARTFORD, Conn., Dec. 28.—Daniel McCaulliffe, formerly a Hartford policeman and now head of the secret service of the Irish Free State, has been back in America since Monday. He is said to have been sent to negotiate for the release to the Free State Government of \$5,000,000 in deposit in New York banks, representing the purchase by Irish republicans here of Irish bonds.

Dr. GORDSHELL'S
ALL HEALING
SALVE
FOR BOILS—BURNS
ALL SKIN DISEASE

FAY KING TELLS HOW
DIPLOMAT BUNKED
THE WOMEN



Flattered When Gay Deceiver Asked
Young Ones About Mothers.

By FAY KING.
When the doorbell clanged where I'm spending the holidays, I did a marathon to answer it because I was expecting a package to be delivered.
When I opened it, I thought at first there wasn't anybody there, because I didn't notice the little kid in the checked cap and the red Windsor tie until I looked down—away down—from the level of my eyes.
I was so sure when that whang came at the bell that it was the package I was looking for that I was pretty much disappointed to spy this cricket instead of the big huskie with the books.
But lookin' up at me with a broad grin, the kid says:
"Th' your mother home?"
"What do you want?" I came back.
"Is your mother home?" CALLED HIM BACK.
"You got somethin' to sell, aint you?" I says, and he hopped his head. "Well, wot is it?"
"It's tickets to a Sunday school dinner that's goin' to be give down at our Sunday school Friday night!"
"We don't want any!" I said, and being a good bit out-temper from disappointment, I backed inside and started to close the door when he hopped it off the porch.
"Wot did he want?" asked the rest of the gang, when I came back in, and I told 'em, how he insisted on seeing 'my mother,' not realizing at the moment that it might reflect upon the matronly appearance of my hostess, but she wasn't so slow and snapped back at me.
"Did he ask YOU if your mother was home?" and just like that, I got it through my thick head.
"That's right, it was some compliment," I said "with me not lookin' like any two-year-old." Before it was too late, I rushed out to the door and yahooped the

FORBIDS HOME-MADE CIDER
AND WINE FOR BOARDERS

HARTFORD, Dec. 28.—Home-made wine and cider, officially known as nonintoxicating fruit juices, made by the head of a family, may not be sold or served to boarders in his house, according to a statement issued by Internal Revenue Collector Eaton.
At the same time Collector Eaton announced that if through process of nature cider or any other fruit juices made in private homes acquire a larger percentage of alcohol than they contained at the making, he knew of no provision of law by which the owners could be deprived of them.
This, he said, applied to owners who had filed with his office a notice of intention to make such nonintoxicating fruit juices up to a maximum of 200 gallons.

CORNER STONE
OF CHURCH
LAID

Mt. Rainier Congregation of Christians to Have New Edifice by Spring.

MT. RAINIER, Md., Dec. 28.—The cornerstone of the new building for the Christian church was laid, with friends and members of the church in attendance. The services were in charge of Homer L. Stanforth, chairman of the building committee. The invocation was by Dr. Y. R. York, pastor of the M. E. Church South; Rev. H. F. Lutz, pastor of the Christian church of Ballston, Va., gave scripture readings and prayer. Edgar Bon Durant, one of the founders of the Mt. Rainier Christian church told of its history. An address by Rev. Earle Willey, pastor of the Vermont Avenue Christian church, Washington, the mother church of all Disciple churches in Washington and suburbs, interested the audience. Songs were sung by the assembly. Dedication of the cornerstone by Dr. Leslie L. Bowers, pastor of the church and the benediction by Rev. C. N. Jarret, pastor of the Fifteenth Street Christian church closed the services. It is expected that the building will be completed by late spring.

Postal cards have been sent out by the secretary of the Mt. Rainier Citizens' association to the members, to ascertain the night preferred for the regular meetings. Meetings now are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month. So many other organizations meet on the same night that the poll is being taken to see if the citizens' association should change its date.

Calendars are being sold by the volunteer fire department to raise funds for the contemplated new fire station. Each member of the department is pledged to raise \$100.

Beltsville Grange No. 175 has announced the election of the following officers: Mrs. Samuel Beall, master, re-elected; Lee Sellman, overseer; A. M. Smith, lecturer; P. A. Gallant, steward; O. Howell, assistant steward; Miss Mollie Hall, chaplain; Samuel Beall, treasurer; Mrs. Lee Sellman, secretary; J. W. Kelk, gate-keeper; Miss Florence Beall, crier; Mrs. W. F. Mulligan, pomona; Mrs. William Beerwood, flora; Miss Olive Kelk, lady assistant steward.

CUMBERLAND'S WATER
SUPPLY IS STILL LOW

CUMBERLAND, Md., Dec. 28.—Warning has again been sent out to conserve the city water supply, and the big expense of installing pumps at the Everts Creek dam to force water into the main will have to be met. The level of the lake is now twenty-two feet below the spillway. The recent rain and snow have not been of sufficient volume to raise the level of the lake the least bit.

After-Xmas Sale
Hundreds of Pairs of
Hahn-Quality Women's Shoes
Formerly \$5.95 to \$8.50

Strap Pumps—Street Pumps
Colonials—Oxfords—Boots
All Sizes—All Materials

Hahn SHOES

At all our stores
—but only a few at
"City Club Shop"

Cor. 7th & K Sts.
1914 9th St.
414-16 Pa. Ave.
233 Pa. Ave. S.E.