

### ASKS RAILROADS FOR INFORMATION

Series of Inquiries Directed by Interstate Commerce Commission.

### SEEKS ADDITIONAL FACTS

Questions in Relation to Petition for Advance in Freight Rates.

Washington, December 27.—A series of interrogatories were addressed by the Interstate Commerce Commission today to the railroads of Eastern classification territory in relation to the petition of the roads for an advance of 5 per cent in their freight rates. The inquiries are designed to develop such facts concerning the physical and financial operations of the roads as heretofore have not been submitted to the commission.

In its circular to the railroads the commission points out that the fundamental questions which have arisen in the advance rate proceeding are: "Do the present rates of transportation yield adequate revenues to common carriers by railroads operating in official classification territory? If not, what general course may carriers pursue to meet the situation?" The commission says that elaborate and helpful information already has been submitted by the roads showing the operating and financial results from operations and business net income.

These statements of the financial results of the commission's statement of the roads, which are to be furnished to the commission to be used in determining the general course carriers may pursue to meet the situation.

The commission requires for this purpose additional information from the roads to determine the causes of the diminishing net revenues and net income and the general course to be pursued.

The inquiries are divided into seven groups, which go to the heart of both physical and financial operations of the roads. The various groups deal with the revenues and their conservation; returns received from transportation of various commodities; special services rendered in granting special rates; and the physical and financial history of the roads; inquiries to develop information regarding the financial interests of directors, officers or employees of the roads in the business of parties to transactions in which the roads are parties; sleeping car contracts and other service and results of such operations.

The carriers are directed by the commission to submit their responses before January 10.

### SPECULATORS IN CROPS FACING STORMY TIMES

Washington, December 27.—More trouble is in store for "Wall Street" according to the plans of the House Committee on Agriculture and a number of Representatives from agricultural districts in the South and West. A series of hearings is to be commenced immediately upon resumption of the session after the holiday recess, and the committee on agriculture proposes to go after the speculators in stocks, cotton and grain with a sharp stick.

That an antipoll and antifutures bill covering gambling in futures and

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<b>Lot 1</b> About 100 pairs Women's Pat Colt and Gun Metal Lace Boots. Nearly all sizes in this lot, and regular \$3.00 and \$2.50 values, on sale Monday, <b>At \$1.59 pair</b>	<b>Lot 2</b> About 500 pairs of M. & R. Boots, lace and button, all Goodyear welts, in pat colt, gun metal and vic kid; nearly all sizes in this lot; \$5.00 and \$4.00 values, <b>At \$2.98 pair</b>
<b>Lot 3</b> Misses' and Children's Pat Colt and Gun Metal Button Boots: 8 1-2 to 11; \$1.75 value, at \$1.39. 11 1-2 to 2, \$2.00 value, at \$1.59. 2 1-2 to 6, \$2.50 value, at \$1.89.	<b>Lot 4</b> Every Warm Slipper left in stock, including the Deuke and Antionett and ribbon trimmed comfys; \$1.75 and \$1.50 values, <b>Our Price \$1.15 pair</b>

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both cotton and grain, will be pushed to enactment seems very likely. A number of such bills are pending in the House, and the men back of them are very much in earnest. The Senate is waiting impatiently for a chance to endorse them, having been failed in an attempt in that direction last session by a promise of future action on a separate bill.

The practical reason for the postponement was recognition of the fact that heavy action might militate against legitimate dealings in cotton and tend to depress the price of that staple. The Southern Representatives, having won their fight for six-month national bank loans on agricultural products, and five-year loans on farm lands, under authority of the new currency system, are inclined to scrutinize legislation which might affect the market price of cotton.

There are Southern men, however, from the big cotton-growing States who are most earnest in advocacy of antifutures bills. Senator Clarke, of

Arkansas, Representative Heflin, of Alabama; Representative Byrne, of South Carolina, and Representatives Goodwin, Wingo and Oldfield, of Arkansas, are urging action to regulate dealings in futures in cotton, while Representative Ferris, of Oklahoma, would prohibit options in grain.

Chairman Lever, of the House Committee on Agriculture, has a bill which deals broadly with the whole subject, and other bills are pending to regulate trading in stocks.

The committee will begin hearings on these bills early in the new year.

### Killed by Automobile.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) Fayetteville, N. C., December 27.—Rhoda Carver, an aged negro woman, was run down and killed by O. C. Trice, when she became confused and stepped in front of Mr. Trice's motor car at the south end of Eccles Bridge, on Green Street, in this city, this afternoon. Trice was exonerated by a coroner's jury.

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### BERLIAND TELLS OF HIS ARREST

Russian Government Fails in Effort to Confiscate Mendel Beiliss Memoirs.

### NEWSPAPER MAN IMPRISONED

Police Refuse Passport, but Order Him to Leave Kiev Immediately.

(Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.)

London, December 27.—Boris Berliand, one of the staff of the International News Service's London bureau, who was arrested in Kiev on Monday night in connection with the attempt of the Russian government to confiscate the memoirs of Mendel Beiliss, has been released. The news came in the following cablegram from Berliand himself:

"Kiev, December 27.—Last Monday night I seriously felt the effects of the fury of the autocratic action, which my supposed possession of the Beiliss memoirs created.

"It seems the Russian police called on Dr. Bichovsky, head of the Jewish Hospital, situated at the Zaitz 1st Brick Works in Kiev, and placed on him a series of questions as to the meaning of numerous visits which I, in company with F. Aslett Wray, was making to Beiliss. Dr. Bichovsky, who has charge of the Beiliss affairs, replied the best he could, incidentally being forced to disclose where we were stopping.

"Learning of the visit of the police to Dr. Bichovsky, Wray and I deemed it wise that one of us should leave the city as early as possible. I went to London, taking with me the Beiliss memoirs, which, fortunately, were concealed. As Wray already had received back his passport from the police, and there was considerable doubt whether mine would be forthcoming, it was decided that Wray should go on Monday night. He left, taking all the important papers with him. I retained some of minor importance, which I hid in the bathroom of my hotel.

"After seeing Wray off from the station I returned to the hotel and went to bed. About 2 o'clock Tuesday morning I was awakened by loud knocking on my door. I opened it and was confronted by a number of spies and uniformed police. They raided the room and formed a circle around me. The officer in charge said:

"Is your name Berliand?" "Yes," I answered.

"Where is your colleague?" "I don't know."

"Where are the Beiliss memoirs?" was then demanded.

"I don't know," I lied.

"Then you are arrested," the officer replied.

**Refuses to Answer.**

"I asked him whether he had a warrant for my arrest, and, if so, what was the nature of the charge against me. No reply was forthcoming, but I was immediately seized and searched, while everything in the room was ransacked.

"Finding nothing to help them, the officer in charge ordered his men to carry me out of the hotel, as I refused to walk out myself. This they did, carrying me into the street, where it was snowing hard and the cold intense.

"I was taken to the Kiev prison, where Beiliss spent two years and a half, and was thrown into a cell. There I was again questioned as to what had become of the Beiliss memoirs. I refused to answer, and also declined to state the whereabouts of Wray, thus preventing the police from wiring to the frontier to arrest him.

"After a time the police left me alone in the cell, which was absolutely dark, besides being excessively cold and damp. I passed a sleepless night, during which the wardens used the foul language to me.

"In the morning I was again questioned, and I then told the police Wray had left for Vienna, thus concentrating their attention on an opposite frontier. Whether they tried to follow up Wray, I don't know, but I hope he got through safely.

"Later the police realized that their attempts to get the Beiliss memoirs from me had failed, and they were furious. They revenged themselves on me by refusing to give me my passport and ordering me to leave Kiev immediately. This, I am doing. My arrest has provoked the utmost indignation of all Russian newspapers."

### MARSHAL WEBB TAKES UP DUTIES

He Is Sworn In at Greensboro, and Now Is Besieged by Office-seekers.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) Greensboro, N. C., December 27.—Charles A. Webb, of Asheville, chairman of the State Democratic Executive Committee, today took the oath of office as marshal for the Western District of North Carolina. His commission was received yesterday by Judge Boyd, who immediately notified Mr. Webb that he could be sworn in as soon as his bond was filed and approved. Mr. Webb arrived this morning, and gave his bond in a surety company, and, this being approved, the oath was administered by Clerk M. Milliken, of the Federal Court. One of Marshal Webb's first acts was to appoint J. M. Baley, who had been marshal for three days by appointment of Judge Boyd, and formerly was Marshal Logan's chief deputy. Mr. Baley will be chief office deputy temporarily. He will soon be succeeded by ex-Sheriff Ross, of Randolph. It is said E. G. Sherrill, formerly chairman of the Guilford County Democratic Committee, will be one of the new deputies. Just as soon as the work of the office can be gotten in shape, the Republicans will be displaced and their jobs given to Democrats. Mr. Webb was besieged today by candidates and their friends. There are ten or twelve good places at the disposal of Mr. Webb. The offices may be moved to Asheville, but this cannot be done without the consent of the Department of Justice.

### THOUSANDS WITHOUT WORK

Number in Los Angeles Not as Great as First Reported, However.

Los Angeles, December 27.—Five thousand men out of work in Los Angeles, instead of 30,000 as previously reported from police and other sources, is the announcement made today by Acting Mayor Whiffen and the city council following a thorough canvass of the whole city by a good fellows' committee, a private charity.

The announcement that previous estimates were exaggerated created a feeling of relief at the city hall. Preparations are being made to expend emergency funds liberally in public improvements, on which 3,000 or 4,000 men may be employed for several months. Civil service regulations will be expanded, so that every man who needs work for the support of his family may find a place on the pay rolls.

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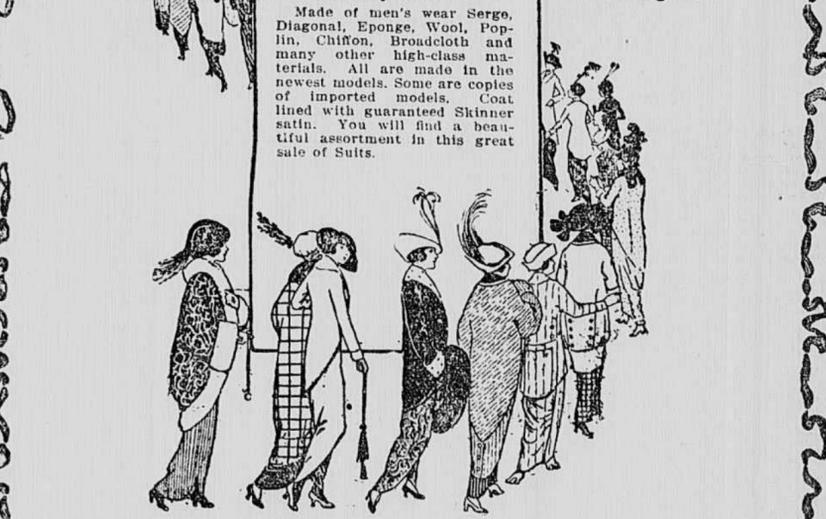


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\$20 Modish Matelasse Coats	\$7.98	\$15 Black Broadcloth Coats	\$7.98
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\$16.50 Blanket Weave Coats	\$7.98	\$15 Fine Melton Coats	\$7.98

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