

COUNCIL ACTS FAVORABLY ON MORRELL TAX

BY PETITION TO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN A RESOLUTION ALDERMEN RECOMMEND THAT ASSESSMENT BE REDUCED.

EMPLOYEES PLEAD BEFORE OFFICIALS

APPEALS OF WORKMEN FOR THEIR BREAD AND BUTTER BRINGS ABOUT RETENTION OF PLANT IN OTTUMWA.

"There will be no interruption to the operation of the plant in Ottumwa and everything will continue on as if nothing had happened. We will not cease the slaughtering of stock and all will go on as usual in an uninterrupted manner." T. D. Foster, director and manager of John Morrell & Co.

By the unanimous vote of the council last night in adjourned session, the tax assessment of John Morrell & Co. was recommended in a petition to the board of supervisors of Wapello county to be reduced from \$875,000 to \$450,000. The action of the body was the result of the plea of a delegation of the packing house employees who asked for the assistance of the council to take such action on the tax assessment of the plant to prevent its leaving the city and thus throw the employees out of work. Their appeals were those of men facing a situation that was fraught with trials and hardship to them and they pleaded with feeling.

The council also appointed a committee of five to work with the Commercial association in making a plan for the handling of enterprises seeking a location here in the future.

That the Morrell employees were successful in their plea is evident from the adoption of the resolution framed by the council in a recess and returned to the chamber for adoption at 9 o'clock.

The Resolution.

The resolution follows: "Whereas John Morrell & Co. of this city have declared their intention to discontinue the operation of its packing plant here at Ottumwa, Iowa, because of the alleged action of the city council in fixing too high the assessment on the company's property thereby increasing the taxes beyond the amount placed on similar enterprises in Iowa cities, be it

Resolved, That the city council petition the board of supervisors of Wapello county, Iowa, to fix the assessment of John Morrell & Co. as follows:

"On personal property, \$275,000.

"On real estate, \$175,000.

"Be it resolved and understood that in consideration of the reduction of the assessment of the amount above named, that John Morrell & Co. will not close the operation of its plant here, but instead will continue to operate the plant as heretofore in this city."

Feeling Was Tense.

For some time previous to the opening of the council meeting, knots and bunches of men bearing the stamp of working men, and having the look of care and worry on their countenances, gathered in the hallway of the building and throughout the council chamber. The seating capacity of the chamber was soon filled and still the crowd continued to gather in the room. By the hour of eight, the room was packed and a mass of humanity was huddled without the railing that separates the aldermen from the audience room in the council chamber. The great mass of these men were employees of John Morrell & Co., from the several departments of the plant, and they sat and stood about in an expectant and waiting attitude, watching in suspense for the outcome of the session on which they depended for the continuance of their several positions. The feeling was tense and nothing disturbed the order about the crowded room until the filing in of all of the aldermen. The voice of the mayor in calling the meeting to order was the first sound to break the quiet of the room.

Employees State Case.

The force of the human asking for assistance which he felt was due him was amply demonstrated in a number of short but earnest talks by Morrell packing house employees before the council. A committee of the Morrell employees had been previously seen by the mayor and told to put forth their spokesmen at the proper time and be brief in their talks. T. F. McGarry was the first speaker. He said he pleaded the cause of 700 to 800 men who would be thrown out of work unless something was done by the council to change the attitude of

Joint Committee Called Together to Ratify Scale

Des Moines, May 6.—(Special.)—Having finished all but five of the thirty-one resolutions in the new wage scale being discussed by a joint committee of the Iowa coal miners and operators, that body voted unanimously to call the joint convention to gether next Wednesday and ratify the scale.

WILL INCREASE NUMBER OF THE U.S. SURVEYORS

RIVER MEN HEAR GOOD NEWS AT ENTHUSIASTIC GATHERING IN EDDYVILLE—CAPT. KELLER IS CHIEF ENTERTAINER.

Eddyville, May 6.—(Special.)—The satisfying information that the corps of engineers now working on the Des Moines river would soon be increased, was announced at the meeting of the Des Moines River Improvement association here yesterday. The boosters from the several cities present discussed the navigation of the stream to some length, and following the adjournment of the meeting the visitors all were taken to the point in the city where Captain W. S. Keller daily navigates the stream. Interesting talks were given by President Joseph Dain, Secretary W. T. Archer, D. F. Morey and F. M. Hunter of Ottumwa, and H. C. Bucey of Douds-Leando. Captain Keller, vice president from Eddyville, called the meeting to order and Mr. Dain presided. It was practically decided that the next meeting of the association would be held next month in Bonaparte.

In discussing the progress thus far made by United States Assistant Engineer A. O. Rowse and his crew, Secretary Archer reported about the engineer increasing his force. "This," said Mr. Archer, "will enable the survey to be completed by January 1, 1910." Mr. Archer also reported that the death of a friend in Des Moines prevented the attendance at the meeting of Mr. Sullivan, who was to have addressed the river men.

Following the meeting, Mr. Keller escorted the delegates to his sand plant. Mr. Keller is building an immense barge, eighteen feet wide and sixteen feet long over all. It will hold three car loads of sand and he expects to handle it on the river above Eddyville with the same ease as much smaller crafts would be handled. The barge will carry 400 people. He is also improving his steamboat, "City of Eddyville," having fitted it with a high pressure, fifty horse power boiler and otherwise bettered it. Mr. Keller is loading ten cars of sand each day in this city.

BOARD ADOPTS THE RESOLUTION

MORRELL TAX PETITION FROM CITY COUNCIL BROUGHT BEFORE CO. SUPERVISORS.

In presenting the petition of the city council in the Morrell tax matter, which was embodied in the resolution passed by that body last night, to the board of supervisors this afternoon, some little opposition was met with, but overcome. Questioning the regularity of the procedure in presenting such a petition to the board, Chairman John Reinhard and A. J. Fairchild raised the question of the form in which the matter was presented. Mr. Reinhard stated that the matter was a large proposition and felt that perhaps the city council was shoving a responsibility on the board of supervisors which it did not care to take itself. A committee composed of Joseph Dain, W. T. Harper, Frank McIntire, J. C. Jordan and T. H. Pickler accompanied by City Treasurer M. L. Byrne presented the matter to the board and Treasurer Byrne verified its authenticity. After considerable discussion in which all joined, Chairman Reinhard put the motion of acceptance and approval, which was adopted.

The board is busy preparing the poll books and selecting election boards for duty in the various precincts and townships at the June primary. The task is a large one and will take a day or two before finishing.

350 BODIES RECOVERED IN EARTH QUAKE

TERRIBLE LOSS OF LIFE AND PROPERTY IS RESULT OF EARTH SHOCK IN PROVINCE OF CARTAGO, COSTA RICO.

San Juan Del Sur, Nicaragua, May 6.—Reports from San Jose, Costa Rica, today state that no habitable houses remain in Cartago, which was visited by an earthquake Wednesday night. Three hundred and fifty bodies have been recovered from the ruins.

San Juan Del Sur, Nicaragua, May 6.—A large part of Cartago, Costa Rica, was destroyed by a powerful seismic movement. Details are very meager, as the telegraph wires have been leveled between San Jose and Cartago. The operators at the latter place were killed.

It is known that at least 500 persons are dead and many hundreds injured. Scores of buildings were thrown down, among them the palace of justice, erected by Andrew Carnegie. The wife and child of Dr. Boenigra, the Guatemalan magistrate to the Central American arbitration court, have been killed. Panic reigns, as the earthquakes continue. San Jose has also been shaken, some of the buildings being damaged, but no deaths are reported in that city. Some persons were slightly injured.

Earth shocks also were felt at several points in Nicaragua, near the Costa Rican frontier. Reports reaching here state that there is much suffering and destitution at Cartago, consequent upon the disaster. Cartago, capital of Cartago province, lies at the foot of Irazu volcano, about fourteen miles from San Jose. It has an estimated population of 10,000, and is the seat of the Central American Peace court, for the honor of which Andrew Carnegie donated a large sum.

Cartago was the capital of the country until 1823. It has suffered frequently from earthquakes, and was partially or in greater part destroyed in 1723, 1803, 1825, 1841, 1851 and 1854.

On April 13 last a series of earthquakes, varying in intensity, swept over Costa Rica, doing considerable material damage, but practically without loss of life. San Jose suffered most severely, while both Cartago and Port Limon felt the force of the disturbances.

DOLLIVER AND CUMMINS.

Iowa Senators Will Speak for Garst in Des Moines Tuesday—Accept Last Night.

Des Moines, May 6.—Senators Dolliver and Cummins last night notified the "progressive" leaders here that they would arrive here next Monday night for a big "progressive" meeting to be held Tuesday night. Both senators will speak in support of former Governor Warren Garst, candidate against Governor B. F. Carroll, and of "progressive" candidates for congress where there are contests.

GRIFFIN MAKES GOOD CAPTURE

OBSERVING HABITS OF ALBIA OFFICER BEARS FRUIT IN ARREST OF THIEVES

Albia, May 6.—(Special.)—Sheriff Griffin had a very interesting experience yesterday, which proves the power of quick and accurate observation so essential to an officer, is possessed in an unusual degree by Mr. Griffin. At 5:45 a. m., he returned via the Wabash from a trip to Arkansas after George Prall, indicted for wife desertion, and was in a cab with his prisoner, when he passed a fine outfit. At 6:30 he received a telephone message from Lewis Parry at Given, stating the loss of a fine team and buggy. The description tallied with the one he had seen a short time before. Without even getting his handcuffs, the sheriff took an automobile and at 10 o'clock had the thieves strapped with a hitch rein to the automobile. At Unionville they gave their names as A. F. Cunningham of Des Moines and Steve Moran of Colfax. The sheriff of Mahaska county will come for the two. Mr. Parry had made several unsuccessful attempts to locate his team. Had Sheriff Griffin failed to notice closely at the time of passing the team and buggy, Mr. Parry would probably have been some time without his property.

Rear Armored Dead. Santa Barbara, Calif., May 6.—Rear Admiral McCalla, U. S. N., aged 66, died this morning of apoplexy. He entered the navy in 1861 and had an excellent civil war record, and did active duty in all parts of the world.

8 BODIES TAKEN FROM MINE; 150 ARE ENTOMBED

DYNAMITE EXPLOSION IN COLLIERY NEAR BIRMINGHAM, ALA., BURIES MEN; FLAMES PREVENT RESCUE.

Palos, Alabama, May 6.—Eight bodies were removed shortly after daylight today from the ill-fated mine where probably 150 miners were entrapped by an explosion yesterday afternoon. The condition of the bodies indicated that death was instantaneous and doubt is expressed at finding any of the others alive.

Birmingham, Ala., May 6.—Forty-five white men and between 130 and 140 negroes are entombed in No. 3 coal mine at Palos as the result of a terrific explosion yesterday.

Palos is forty miles west of Birmingham and the mines are owned by the Palos Coal and Coke company of this city. Two bodies were found early last night, but it is expected that few of them can be recovered today. The flames resulting from explosion shot into the air from the mouth of the mine for a distance of 200 feet, and the shock was felt for miles. Timbers from the slope were hurled several hundred feet from its mouth and rocks from the room of the slope carved in a path made access to the mouth very difficult. The fan machinery was badly damaged, but air is being pumped into the mine in hopes that some of the men are still alive.

Special Train Sent.

Local residents began at once to do what they could, but relief work was not started in earnest until the special train from Birmingham arrived in Palos, shortly after 4 o'clock. This train carried State Mine Inspector Jas. Hillhouse, J. J. Rutledge, government expert in charge of the geological station at Knoxville, Tenn., who happened to be in the district investigating the recent disaster at Mulga, eight physicians and surgeons, four undertakers and a number of special help. The hospital relief car of the Tennessee Coal, Iron & Railroad company was also taken. This car contained helmets and all other necessary paraphernalia for entering gaseous mines.

The first rescuers who went into the mine after the explosion, were carried out. Mr. Rutledge was among the first to enter and after working his way 1,400 feet down the slope, found the second right entry caved in. The two bodies recovered last night were in the main shaft.

James Gousby, a mail carrier, was killed thirty feet from the mouth of the slope and his body was hurled thirty feet into the Warrior river. He was walking along the geological station at Knoxville, Tenn., who happened to be in the district investigating the recent disaster at Mulga, eight physicians and surgeons, four undertakers and a number of special help. The hospital relief car of the Tennessee Coal, Iron & Railroad company was also taken. This car contained helmets and all other necessary paraphernalia for entering gaseous mines.

There are a number of mining camps within two or three miles of the Palos mine, and within a short time after the explosion a great crowd had gathered about the ill-fated mine. Hundreds of women and children were around the mine, wringing their hands and crying piteously.

Small Hope for Men.

The Palos mines have been worked for a number of years, and the entries were extensive. The only hope that some of the men have escaped and are still alive is the possibility that they were far enough away from the explosion to have missed its force. It is thought that the explosion was caused by the accumulation of gas in some of the abandoned entries.

The disaster, coming so soon after the Mulga explosion, Thursday April 21, in which forty-one men lost their lives, has plunged the mining settlements into great grief. The Red Cross and other relief work for the widows and orphans at Mulga has not yet been completed. E. P. Bicknell, general director of the National Red Cross, made a special trip from Washington to investigate relief needs at Mulga and yesterday's explosion bids fair to cost more than four times as many lives as did Mulga.

The government experts, J. J. Rutledge and George F. Rice, have been in the district since the Mulga explosion investigating its cause and both of them hurried out to Palos. H. A. Drennen, treasurer of the Palos Coal and Coke company, said last night that the company was fully insured against losses from explosions.

The company was one of the first in this section that employed union miners only.

LEGISLATORS CALLED.

Seven Men Whose Testimony Bears on Lorimer Election Scandal to Testify.

Chicago, May 6.—Seven Illinois legislators whose testimony bears on the election of Senator Lorimer appeared before the special grand jury here today. They were: H. J. C. Beckemeyer, W. C. Blair, Daniel Donahue, Joseph H. Clark, Henry A. Sheppard, Michael S. Link and Charles A. White. Beckemeyer is said to have corroborated White's story of bribery.

Carroll to Have Guard Company.

Carroll, May 6.—(Special.)—Last night at a special meeting of the Citizen's club, the requisite number of signers of military age were secured to secure for Carroll Company D of the Iowa National guard.

Roosevelt May be the Guest of Iowa Editors

Des Moines, May 6.—(Special.)—Colonel Roosevelt will be the guest of the Press Club of Des Moines of which editors and publishers of Iowa are members at a monster dinner at the Coliseum here some time in August, just before he goes to Kansas City to address the Conservation congress. The Press club sent a cable to him while he was in Paris asking him to stop off at Des Moines to meet the editors of all parties and factions and tell them about big game hunting in Africa and the reply was received today. Roosevelt said, "I cannot tell at this time when I will be there but it is a kind of invitation which I like to accept." Chicago business men are trying to secure Roosevelt for the same time. He will probably spend a day in Chicago, one in Des Moines and Kansas City. The Des Moines newspaper men plan one long table in the coliseum with Roosevelt at the head.

INSURGENTS TO FIGHT TO FINISH

LEADERS IN SENATE DECLARE THEY WILL WORK FOR GOOD RATE BILL.

Washington, D. C., May 6.—Following rumors that their ranks were being broken by inroads of the regulars, insurgent senators say they do not intend to be swerved from their course on the railroad bill, no matter what tactics are pursued by the conservative Republicans. Announcement of this unyielding stand was made at the conclusion of an insurgent conference last night by Senator Cummings. It was uttered in the presence of several of his progressive associates.

For three days the insurgents have been in session for a thorough consideration of the political and legislative situation, the conferences continuing through the daylight hours when the senate has not been meeting. "What will be the effect upon your organization now that President Taft has made it clear that he is depending upon the line-up of regular Republicans for the carrying out of his program?" was asked. Senator Clapp hastened to answer.

"He says he wants a good railroad bill, doesn't he? Well, that is what we are trying to give him." Senator Cummings added that the progressives will continue to offer amendments which they think will improve the proposed legislation. He said he was not ready to say whether he would vote ultimately for or against the railroad bill.

"If I think it contains legislation which would be of benefit to shippers and the people generally, I will vote for it, of course, even though it does not carry provisions which I had thought should be carried. If it contains provisions which in my judgment would weaken the regulations the federal government is now permitted to exercise over railroads, why then I would vote against it. That is all I can say."

Rumors that there had been serious differences of opinion within the "progressive" ranks and that the divergent views have crept into the conference to the extent that there has been some bitterness exhibited, were denied by several of the progressives. Senator Clapp said such statements were "very unfair." He explained that on the great questions involved in the railroad bill no group of men, nor any two men, could be expected to come together over night.

SUPREME COURT REVERSES SUIT

BIG DAMAGES AGAINST IOWA GROCER SET ASIDE BY DECISION TODAY.

Des Moines, May 6.—(Special.)—The supreme court today sent back to Oelwein for a new trial a damage case wherein a verdict of \$25,000 was rendered against a grocer for having put gasoline into a can which finally resulted in an accident to a child. The can was painted red as required for gasoline, but two small children were sent to the store to buy kerosene and afterwards one of them under instruction, poured oil into a stove to hasten the fire, she was badly burned. The reversal, however, was because of failure to have before the jury all the evidence given to show that the parents of the child did not hold the grocer responsible.

Gracie Dubois vs. H. J. Luthmers, appellant; Superior court; Oelwein. Reversed.

John Reed, appellant vs. Elias Doty; Linn county. Reversed.

Fred S. Corrick, appellant vs. Jonas Dunham, Taylor county, affirmed.

Estate of T. Munier vs. E. C. Michael, appellant, Linn county, reversed.

Michael Galalucha, vs. Charles Maso, appellant, Linn county, affirmed.

FREIGHT RATES INCREASE FIXED

EIGHTY TO TWENTY PER CENT RAISE IN TARIFFS ON EASTERN LINES.

Chicago, May 6.—The general advance in classified freight rates on the eastern railroads is to go into effect about July 15, and will average from 8 to 20 per cent, according to advice received by representatives of the local shippers yesterday.

There will follow a number of advances in commodity rates already filed with the interstate commerce commission by the roads running between Chicago and the Missouri river, but unlike the western roads, the eastern lines have distributed the brunt of the advance over the rates on higher grade shipments and merchandise. The present rates per hundred pounds from Chicago to New York for the six different classes in cents per hundred pounds are 75, 65, 50, 35, 30, and 25. The new rates will be 90, 78, 60, 40, 33, and 27.

It is not expected that the advances will all be made effective before fall, but the Chicago-New York scale has already been checked in, it is stated. Similar advances will be made in many of the commodity rates, which are special rates applied to shipments in large quantities. On these the advance will not be general, but will be in the nature of a readjustment. On many articles such as coal and ore, the railroad officials say that probably no advance will be made. The class rate schedule is the one which aroused such a storm of protest among the shippers two years ago, when it was proposed to make an advance of 10 per cent. This action was postponed by the railroads, following a series of conferences with the shippers and a mass meeting held in the Congress hotel.

GIVES TO CHARITY.

Will of Waterloo Woman Sets Aside Large Sums for Public Purposes.

Waterloo, May 6.—(Special.)—In the will of Harriet Kendall who died this week, she provides several public bequests. The most important being an indefinite sum to an aged ladies home either in Blackhawk or Chickasaw counties. She gave \$2,500 for the Children's Home society of Des Moines and \$2,500 to Booker T. Washington's school at Tuskegee, Alabama, to be used in educating negroes. Two nieces got \$5,000 each and other relatives and friends are generously remembered. The home for aged women is for any city or town in the counties named, depending on which raised the most money.

APPROPRIATION BILLS ARE PASSED

SUNDRY CIVIL AND APPROPRIATIONS MEASURES GO THROUGH.

Washington, May 6.—The sundry civil appropriation bill, carrying a total of \$111,849,211, was reported to the house today. The total represents a cut of \$16,650,000 from the estimates submitted to the committee, and is \$20,000,000 less than the sundry bill carried for the current fiscal year. The largest single item is \$37,859,890 for the Panama canal. The bill carries appropriations for practically all branches of the government service. Carrying \$241,000,000, the post office appropriations bill, passed the senate today without change from the form reported from the committee.

The Adamson amendment to the railroad bill exempting railroads entirely within one state was defeated by the house today, 121 to 144. The house today, 131 to 128, struck out the entire section of the railroad bill prohibiting the acquisition of the stock of competing lines.

Senators Elkins and Crans informed their associates today they had fifty-five votes, eight more than is needed to defeat every long and short haul amendment to the railroad bill that may be offered. This number includes many democrats.

CONDITION OF KING EDWARD IS CRITICAL

MONARCH STRICKEN WITH BRONCHITIS AND ENTIRE NATION IS ALARMED AT GRAVE REPORTS FROM BEDSIDE.

GROWS WEAKER DURING THE DAY

BULLETIN LATE THIS AFTERNOON SAYS CONDITION HAS BECOME CRITICAL; CROWDS GATHER ABOUT THE PALACE.

London, May 6.—All members of the royal family have been summoned to the palace. All those out of town are hastening to London.

London, May 6.—Well, it is all over, but I think I've done my duty. These words fell from the lips of King Edward in a waking interval this afternoon. His majesty's condition is declared critical by the attending physicians and gloom has settled over the city and the province following the issuance of tonight's bulletin.

London, May 6, 8:15 p. m.—The King is experiencing choking spells, which affect his heart. The symptoms are of the gravest character. It is reported among the palace attendants that his majesty may not survive more than two or three hours.

London, May 6.—A bulletin this afternoon by the king's physician says his majesty's symptoms have become worse during the day and the king's condition is now critical.

London, May 6.—At 3 o'clock this afternoon a court official stated that so far as could be judged without expert examination the condition of King Edward, who is seriously affected with bronchitis, was a shade better than during the night. A bulletin at 11:06 a. m. says the king passed a comparatively quiet night, but his symptoms were not improved and his majesty's condition gives rise to grave anxiety. A bulletin will be issued at 6:30 o'clock this evening.

An atmosphere of great depression surrounds Buckingham palace today. A bulletin describing the king's condition and which five eminent physicians now in attendance issued shortly before noon, while vague in terms, inspired profound gloom throughout the city and it was generally construed to mean that the outlook is not at all favorable.

The suddenness of the transition from yesterday morning, when the king was receiving politicians, to the present, when it is believed he is critically ill, has shocked the country. For the moment business and politics are at a standstill. The Prince of Wales arrived at the palace at 10 o'clock this morning. Several physicians and specialists are within call of the sick chamber.

The first unofficial news given out today indicated improvement, those with the king having been deceived by the fact that he had rested quietly throughout the night. The news was received with cheers by anxious crowds throughout the city. This bulletin stated that his majesty's condition remained much the same. A subsequent examination developed that the patient's bronchial tubes instead of being in better condition were more seriously affected after a night's sleep than they were yesterday.

Before noon a great crowd gathered in front of the palace. The throng increased steadily until the police were obliged to take measures to keep the crowds moving. Only officials were admitted to the palace precincts. Early in the afternoon members of the diplomatic corps called and signed the visitors' book, as did many other prominent personages.

All left the palace betraying by their expressions the fears entertained. "Visitors Say Condition Is Grave. "Very bad," said the Archbishop of Canterbury with a solemn shake of his head as he emerged from the palace gate and was questioned regarding his majesty's condition.

Callers at the palace today who had expressed hope that the reports in the morning papers were exaggerated had their worst fears confirmed by the palace officials. "I'm very sorry to say" said one of the king's close entourage, with a shake of the head, "that the papers have not exaggerated his majesty's condition. It is very grave."

There are unmistakable signs that all members of the palace entourage are greatly alarmed. One government officer who in his official capacity, at