

HEARINGS ON RATE CASES BEING HEARD

Seven Members of Interstate Commerce Commission Are in Session at Commerce Chamber Rooms.

MANY COMPLAINTS ARE TO BE HEARD

Lowering of Certain Interstate Rates May Result. Prominent Railroad Men Present.

Seven members of the interstate commerce commission from Washington, D. C., are conducting hearings on railroad rate cases before Examiner Horton at the Chamber of Commerce rooms in the Commercial-athletic club.

Attacking rates on silos and silo materials shipped from Nappanee to various points in the Nappanee Lumber and Manufacturing Co. is appearing in a case against the B. O. & S. W. road.

H. J. Aldworth, traffic manager of the Fullerton-Powell Lumber Co., of South Bend, appeared before the commission Tuesday afternoon in a case against the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe, asking reparation on shipments from Melvin, Texas, to Chatham, Ont.

Other hearings to come before the commission are: Hollister-French Lumber Co. vs the Michigan Central road, attacking rates on lumber shipments from Michigan City, Ind., to points in Illinois.

Wednesday—Five cases filed by the Powell-Myers Co. vs. the Louisville & Nashville and the B. I. & S. W. road; four of these cases attack rates on cross-tie shipments from Southern Illinois points to Streator, Ill., and between Mason City, Ia., and Minnesota Transfer, Minn. One is against the Louisville & Nashville for the privilege of reconsigning shipments of lumber on the C. & E. I., when originating at points on the L. & N.

J. B. Coffey, representing the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe, A. H. Mohr, representing the Louisville and Nashville, J. J. Coleman, representing the B. I. & S. W., and C. R. McAllister, representing the New York Central lines, are appearing before the commission in the various cases.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—Pres't Wilson today completed the message he will read to congress next Tuesday. He made the final changes in the document early this morning, but did not send the manuscript to the public printer as he wished to read it to the members of the cabinet at the regular meeting. It was said that the message would go to the public printer in time to have advance copies ready by tonight.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—Brand Whitlock, American minister to Belgium, came to Washington today to make his report on the Cavell case and other matters to Pres't Wilson and Sec'y Lansing.

A conference is scheduled for late this afternoon, at which matters will be gone over. Whitlock called at the state department this forenoon, but Sec'y Lansing was attending the cabinet meeting and after seeing Third Asst. Sec'y Phillips, he departed.

While shunning all discussion of his work or himself, Whitlock said he would sail for Belgium on the Holland-American liner Rotterdam, leaving New York, Dec. 28.

"I don't know just when I will go to Toledo," he said. His plans for the balance of his "vacation" will not be decided until after this afternoon's conference.

WHITLOCK MEETS PRESIDENT TODAY

ONLY SIX TEAMS REPORT

Good Will Fund is Now Above the \$18,000 Mark.

Six Good Will campaign teams collected \$101.70 for the benefit of the charitable organizations of South Bend Monday.

Following are the figures for Monday: Team No. 1, \$16; four, \$16; eight, \$17; nine, \$44.20; 12, \$7.50; 13, \$1.

Harper Denies He Will Quit As N. D. Coach

Coach Jesse C. Harper of Notre Dame Tuesday denied the rumors which have been afloat here that he has been considering an offer to coach the Michigan Agricultural college team next year.

"This is news to me," declared Harper. "I have not heard a word about it until now. There is nothing to the report."

Just where the rumor originated is not known but the report has been out since Harper started on the southern trip with the Notre Dame eleven.

WOMAN WINS, TO GET STOCK BACK

Mrs. Minnie Thorward Gets Decision in Suit Tried at Elkhart.

Special to The News-Times. ELKHART, Ind., Nov. 30.—The South Bend Home Telephone Co. must either give Mrs. Minnie Thorward of South Bend her old stock in the company, give her new stock or be subject to an action for \$1,800, and an additional judgment of \$525, according to Judge J. L. Harmon's ruling in the superior court here Tuesday.

Mrs. Thorward sued the South Bend Home Telephone Co., Sanford Harris and Albert E. Wilson for the return of stock that was legally assigned to secure an agreement entered into by Theodore Thorward in which he turned over the stock to pay the company for property illegally hypothecated by him while he was president of the company.

Judge Harmon found that Theodore Thorward unlawfully issued notes and used the materials of the company in building the plant of the Berrien County Telephone Co. at Gallen, Mich., and was indebted to the company to the extent of \$13,000. He held that the stock owned by Mrs. Thorward was illegally used to secure the agreement made by Thorward to reimburse the company. The \$525 that is mentioned in the ruling is for money that has been collected and withheld.

The case was venued to the Elkhart county superior court from St. Joseph county.

IS HELD TO GRAND JURY

Passer of Fraudulent Checks Admits He's Guilty.

William Hennings, the young man who was captured Saturday night after having passed three fraudulent checks on local merchants, pleaded guilty to three charges in city court Tuesday morning.

Hennings passed a check for \$10, signed by "A. C. Cooper" on Streibel & Steinel, druggists, another for the same amount on L. A. Kaulpa, and one for \$35 on Samuel Spiro & Co. He stayed too long and was caught by the police just as he was boarding a Lake Shore train Saturday night.

Bond for Hennings was set at \$1,500.

YOUNG MAN ACQUITTED

Orville Denniston is Found Not Guilty of Trespass.

Orville Denniston, a young man charged with malicious trespass, was found not guilty by Judge Warner in city court Tuesday morning.

The charge against the young man was preferred by the custodian of the court house comfort station, who alleged that Denniston tore the top off one of the soap containers in the station and destroyed property otherwise. The young man asserted that the top of the soap container fell off and that he did not pull it off. Lack of sufficient evidence gave the young man his freedom although the judge warned him to be more careful in the future.

ARE IN GOOD CONDITION

Grand Jury Reports on County Jail and Farm.

That the county jail and county farm were in good condition was the substance of the grand jury report returned to the county commissioners. The grand jurors recommended that the interior of the jail be given several coats of paint that sanitary conditions there may be improved.

UNCLE SAM TO KEEP RECORDS OF SUSPECTS

Card Index System Listing All Mentioned in Violation of Neutrality Complaints is Being Prepared.

LEADERS NOT OPPOSED TO PROPOSED CHANGES

President is Assured That He Will be Backed in Effort to Secure Stringent Laws.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—Pres't Wilson has received assurances from congressional leaders that there will be no serious opposition to a general revision of the neutrality laws of the United States. It is expected that bills to that effect will be rushed through the senate and the house during the interval devoted to the preparation of the preparedness legislation. These bills will give the federal government complete jurisdiction over conspiracies against American industries, especially over the attempts that are being made to destroy or cripple munition plants.

It is said to be the intention of the administration to press bills which will give the department of justice additional powers and will at the same time be effective weapons to prevent the military and naval secrets of the nation being stolen by representatives of foreign governments.

Plans Card Index. Meanwhile the department of justice, under the direction of A. Bruce Byleskie, chief of the bureau of navigation, is completing a card index of every person within the limits of the United States against whom complaint has been made that they violated American neutrality. This system is to be kept up to date so that when the new laws are made effective the department will be able to keep close watch on all suspects and railroad those whose activities become obnoxious.

The department is concerned only with those persons who are desirous of interfering in behalf of the European belligerents, but also with the various Mexican and Central American revolutionary juntas. By playing one side against the other it has been found possible for the agents of the department of justice to effectively suppress so planned revolutionary movements in Guatemala, Nicaragua and Colombia within the last few weeks.

MILITIA IS IN CHARGE

State Troops Will Prevent Gambling at Gretna, Miss.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Nov. 30.—State militia today entered the town of Gretna, the seat of Jefferson Parish, in the following out of Gov. Hall's order that all forms of gambling must stop. The troops encamped in the square facing the court house. Their presence will serve merely as a demonstration of Gov. Hall's plan and it is believed that a solution of the situation will be reached before night. Martial law has not yet been declared.

STAYS WET.

KENDALLVILLE, Ind., Nov. 30.—Kendallville will continue to be "wet" as a result of the local option election held here yesterday in which the "wets" polled a majority of 23 votes.

STATE IS EXPECTED TO APPEAL DECISION

SULLIVAN, Ind., Nov. 30.—It is expected that the state will take an appeal from the decision of Judge William H. Bridwell in the Sullivan circuit court in which motions to quash the indictments against the Terre Haute Brewing Co. of Terre Haute; the Cook Brewing Co. of Evansville; and the Anheuser-Busch Brewing Co. of St. Louis, Mo., which charged violation of the corrupt practices act does not apply to local option elections.

Similar charges are pending against 30 or more individuals in circuit court, the grand jury having returned more than 50 indictments at its most recent session. Of these indictments all but four charge violation of the corrupt practices act, and by the ruling of the court, they are defeated.

CONTRIBUTE \$60,000.

LONDON, Nov. 30.—A dispatch from Zurich states that \$60,000 has been contributed by Americans to defray the expenses of a peace congress to be held at Berne in April.

Ralston Will Not Join Ford In Peace Trip

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Nov. 30.—Gov. Ralston will not be a member of the Henry Ford "peace party" which is to go to Europe in the interests of a world peace. The governor in a telegram to Mr. Ford last night, expressed doubt as to the opportunity of peace overtures at this time.

Gov. Ralston's telegram to Mr. Ford follows: "I have not persuaded myself that this is the opportune time for peace advocates voluntarily to intervene between the warring nations of Europe. If however, I felt this was the time to act, it would be impossible for me to abandon my executive duties to take up the work you have in mind."

"I commend you for your solicitude to end the great world tragedy in the interest of humanity, and I thank you for the honor you have done me by inviting me to become one of your peace party."

100 WORKERS ARE CAUGHT IN MINE

Rescue Car is Being Rushed to Boomer, W. Va. Roof Collapses.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Nov. 30.—One hundred men are reported entombed in a mine on the Kanawha & Michigan railway several miles from Boomer, W. Va. The collapse of a part of the mine is said to have been caused by a gas explosion.

The mine is owned by the Boomer Coal & Coke Co. and is three miles up a gully from the town of Boomer, with which town it is connected by a railroad on which only miners ride.

The United States bureau of mines has a rescue car in Logan county, 150 miles from the scene of the disaster. The car is being rushed at full speed to Boomer.

According to officials of the company, 100 entered the mine at 1 o'clock today. Seventy-five men are reported to have been rescued and 25 were unaccounted for. It is believed that the men entombed are still alive and will be rescued when the smoke clears away.

MOTHER LOSES IN SUIT

Will Get No Compensation For Death of Her Son.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Nov. 30.—The industrial board of Indiana today refused to allow the mother of Floyd Glenn Davis any compensation for the death of her son from Otto Mais and Donald Hughes, employees of the Studebaker corporation who had employed Davis in remodeling a business room in which they planned to start a pool room at South Bend. Davis stepped on a nail while searching for money beneath the floor after working hours. The board gave a long opinion supporting the finding.

WARNS RUSSIA OF MINES

Ships Will Not be Allowed to Enter the Danube.

LONDON, Nov. 30.—"Roumania has notified Russia that ships will not be allowed to enter the Danube, which has been mined," says a news agency dispatch from Copenhagen. Previous reports from various continental points had indicated that Roumania would not interfere with Russia's movements in any way.

Busy Session Held by Judge Anderson of Federal Court

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 30.—Arraignment of persons indicted by the federal grand jury was continued before Judge Anderson in federal court here today. Because of the large number of indictments returned and the difficult aspects of many cases the court failed to dispose of all the cases to be heard.

Five postmasters and postal clerks received prison sentence for misuse of the government's funds at yesterday's session of court. When a number of prisoners, gray-haired and with large families, appeared before Judge Anderson, the jurist remarked that "this grand jury seems to have made a special" of indicting men with large families.

At today's session, Albert C. Fritz, a druggist of Indianapolis, who pleaded guilty to having violated the Harrison anti-narcotic law, was fined \$200.

Charles Pryor of New Albany, who pleaded guilty to a charge of having used the mails in an attempt to blackmail, received a sentence of 90 days in jail.

Four Sentenced. Jack Nugent, Frank Hesser, John Hines and John Brans, appeared this morning and received sentence. Nugent was sentenced to imprisonment at the federal prison at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., for one year and one day. Hesser, Hines and Brans received sentences of five months, four months and one month in jail respectively. These four men had pleaded guilty last March but were not sentenced because they were held as witnesses in the conspiracy case against four republicans—Warren Sells, William Myers, William Fears and Morton Holmes.

VIOLATED NO NEUTRALITY IS DEFENSE PLEA

Court Overrules All Motions of Attorneys For Hamburg-American Line Officials Must "Go to Bat."

HAD RIGHT TO SEND SUPPLIES TO WARSHIPS

Manifests Deceived Collector of Port, Says Judge—Defense Admits All Facts Offered by Government.

NEW YORK, Nov. 30.—The Hamburg-American line defendants in the conspiracy trial, today lost all their contentions. Federal Judge Howland overruled the motion by Howard Gans to dismiss the indictments and also overruled the motion by William Rand, Jr., to strike out the Marian Quesada evidence mentioning the name of Capt. Karl Boy-Ed, naval attache of the German embassy.

As to the motion to dismiss, the court said he was inclined to overrule it at once, but on Gans' plea withheld formal ruling until this afternoon when the jury returned to court.

The ruling meant that the Hamburg-American line must "go to bat."

Kand said he could not announce yet whether he would call witnesses or not.

H. Snowden Marshall, United States district attorney, answered the motions of the defense by declaring that regardless of whether the sending out of the supply ships was lawful or not, it had been proved that the defendants falsified their manifests.

Asks for Dismissal. Howard Gans, associate counsel for the defendants, made the motion to dismiss and submitted the first argument. He declared that the government had failed to make out a prima facie case.

"Your honor," he said, "in this trial nothing has been proved that can be construed as evidence of crime or wrong doing."

"But," broke in Judge Howe, "did they not deceive, or attempt to deceive the collector of the port?"

"We contend that has not been proved," replied Gans.

He then reviewed the case as set up by the government saying that the prosecution had taken days to prove what the defense at the outset was willing to concede.

"No neutrality was violated," said Gans. "On the call of the Fatherland these men chartered ships and attempted to send supplies to German warships at sea. They had a right to do that."

Gans then took up each of the defendants, one by one. First came Buenz.

"We admit all that has been offered against Buenz," he said. "He signed charter parties and guarantees of indemnity. Those were lawful acts. Buenz had nothing to do with these manifests."

Gans then took up Poeppinghaus, who went aboard the Berwind as supercargo and gave orders to her master. Gans argued all his acts were lawful.

"But," asked Judge Howe, "is (CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE.)"

A Common Sight in War Zone



"Shot-torn villages are a common sight in the war zone. Here is a stunt in Gerbesviller."—Robert Minor.

PAUL FULLER OF NEW YORK DIES

Pres't Wilson's Advisor in Mexican Affairs Victim of Heart Failure.

NEW YORK, Nov. 30.—Paul Fuller, international lawyer and Pres't Wilson's advisor in Mexican affairs, died suddenly early today in his apartment in the hotel Van Rensselaer. Heart failure was given as the cause.

After dining with Frederick R. Couder and a party of friends, Mr. Fuller returned to his home. He was talking with his wife when he was stricken and died instantly.

Paul Fuller had a dread of publicity. No book of biographical reference contains a line about him. His work was done mainly in his library. He was born of New England parents on a Cape Horn clipper as she sailed into San Francisco bay with a party seeking gold. This was 67 years ago. He was hardly more than a baby when his parents died.

His earlier years were spent among the Mexicans in California and he became a naturalized citizen of that country. He landed in New York, it is said, when about 10 years old, with little to aid him except a knowledge of Spanish and perseverance. Charles Couder, a French school teacher, and without going to college or law school Fuller passed the bar examinations. He became a member of Couder Bros., and then married Leanie Couder and became brother-in-law of his partners.

Mr. Fuller was never a robust man and when he went to Mexico for Pres't Wilson he was accompanied by a physician. He took only a grip and traveled through the heart of the warring country, conferring with the hostile leaders. The Mexicans were surprised to find a representative of the administration would speak to them in their own language, and Mr. Fuller made a favorable impression.

On the Carso plateau our troops have developed a vigorous offensive along the northern slopes of Monte San Michele in the direction of San Martino. They have destroyed more of the enemy's trenches, taking prisoners 15 officers and 702 men. They also captured three machine guns and an abundance of war material.

NATIONALITY OF OWNERS WILL BE CONSIDERED

British in Reply to Argentina, Says Old Rule No Longer in Effect.

BUENOS AIRES, Nov. 30.—Following a protest by the German minister to Argentina, Minister of Foreign Relations Murature today requested from the British minister an explanation of the seizure of the Argentine steamer Presidente Mitre by the transport Macedonia. In reply the British minister stated that his government no longer recognized article 56 of the declaration of London, under which its flag designated the nationality of a ship, but that hereafter the nationality of a vessel would be determined by the nationality of its owners.

The Presidente Mitre is registered under the Argentine flag, but is owned by a company of which the principal stockholders are Germans.

BRITISH SHIP IS SUNK

Detected Thought to Have Been in Government Service.

LONDON, Nov. 30.—The British steamer Dotteder, 1,596 tons, has been sunk by a submarine. The Dotteder was built in 1904.

Current maritime records give no information regarding the Dotteder and it presumably was in the British government service.

AUSTRIANS MAKE COUNTER ATTACKS

Drive Italians Out of Trenches But Fail to Hold Positions, Says Rome.

ROME, Nov. 30.—Terrific counter attacks by the Austrians and reinforcements which arrived at Gorizia resulted in their penetrating some of the Italian trenches northwest of the fortress Sunday, the war office admitted today. The Italians rallied, however, and drove the enemy out of the conquered positions.

The Italian troops are conducting a vigorous offensive on the northern slopes on Monte San Michele, destroying Austrian trenches in fierce attacks and taking more than 700 prisoners.

The following report from the Italian general staff was issued at the war office: "In the Popena valley one of our divisions destroyed the fortress west of the Margona bridge and southeast of Schluderbach."

"In the Monte Nero zone we renewed our attacks on Merzi-Vodil Sunday. After a furious encounter strong entrenchments remained in our possession. Our artillery destroyed three machine guns."

"On the heights northwest of Gorizia the enemy with large reinforcements carried out violent counter attacks and succeeded at some points in penetrating our new trenches. Later we drove him out after sanguinary hand to hand fighting."

"On the Carso plateau our troops have developed a vigorous offensive along the northern slopes of Monte San Michele in the direction of San Martino. They have destroyed more of the enemy's trenches, taking prisoners 15 officers and 702 men. They also captured three machine guns and an abundance of war material."

BRITISH IN RETREAT

Defeated in Bagdad Region, Says Turk Report.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Via Berlin by wireless, Nov. 30.—British troops defeated in the recent fighting in the Bagdad region of Mesopotamia continue to retreat, the Turkish war office announced today.

PORTUGUESE COAST IS STRUCK BY HURRICANE

LISBON, Nov. 30.—A hurricane that visited the Portuguese coast yesterday swept inland today, causing immense damage to property and killing many persons who were crushed to death in the ruins of their homes. Reports from the ministry of the interior indicate that at least 90 have perished and the death list is expected to mount higher as communication with the interior is restored.

In Lisbon, the storm tore off the roof of the former royal residence and damaged many public buildings. Great trees were torn up by the roots and traffic was suspended throughout the city. The fire department is cooperating with the police in rescuing inhabitants. Troops have been called out to prevent looting.

At the mouth of the Tagus heavy damage was done to the shipping. Ten vessels were driven ashore. On the coast a tidal wave accompanied the hurricane.

SERBIAN ARMY SAFE IN HILLS PLANS FIGHT

Eighty Thousand Troops Are Being Reorganized—Bulgarians Resume Offensive and Capture Territory.

BRITISH MAY SEND FORCE TO BALKANS

Plan, It is Said, is to Withdraw Large Army From France and Send It to Aid Serbians.

SALONIKA, Via Paris, Nov. 30.—Eighty-thousand Serbian troops escaped into the mountains of Albania and Montenegro, according to official reports which reached the allies' headquarters today, and are now being organized into an effective army which will take the offensive as soon as supplies which are now on the way arrive.

In escaping the Teuton-Bulgar trap the Serbians had to abandon most of their cannon and ammunition, but saved their light artillery.

It was announced today that all the members of the Serbian government had arrived safely at Scutari, where they will be joined by the entente ministers now at Podgoritza.

ROME, Nov. 30.—Bulgaria is reported to have sent an ultimatum to Roumania giving warning that it will attack Russian troops if they are permitted to pass through Roumanian territory and that it will not be responsible for property losses suffered by the inhabitants of Roumania owing to the military operations.

ATHENS, Nov. 30.—Strongly reinforced in men and artillery, the Bulgarians in southern Serbia have resumed their offensive operations against the Anglo-French forces. French troops have had to evacuate positions on the south bank of the Cerna river, according to reports received today. The Bulgarians crossing the stream under the protection of their artillery.

SOFIA, Nov. 30.—(Via Berlin and Amsterdam.)—Both the Serbians and French troops in southern Serbia are in full retreat, the war office announced today. Bulgarian forces are nearing Monastir.

The Bulgarian general staff reports as follows under date of Nov. 28: "On the southern Macedonian front we occupied the Serbian position of the Fripel-Monastir road Friday. The Serbians continued their retreat toward Monastir with our troops rapidly pursuing."

"Retreating to the right bank of the Cerna, the French destroyed bridges near Vardar, near Vozere and also near the defile across the Balcic range."

LONDON, Nov. 30.—Though heavy snow storms have caused a lull in active operations in most of the war theaters, military plans are being consummated in London and Paris that are of more importance as regards the future of Europe than any that have hitherto been drafted.

There is more than a possibility that the great British army now in France will be utilized in another war theater. Sir John French, commander in chief of the British armies, (CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE.)

LORD KITCHENER BACK IN LONDON

LONDON, Nov. 30.—Lord Kitchener, the British war minister, returned to London this afternoon. He is expected to make a full report to Premier Asquith at once on the results of his trip to the near east and his visits in Rome and Paris.

MESSINA, Italy, Nov. 30.—That Greece has given satisfactory promises to the entente powers was the assertion of Denys Cochin, minister without portfolio in the French cabinet, when he arrived here today from Athens enroute to Paris. Greek participation in the war cannot be expected at the present time, however.

"I have full confidence in the assurances of King Constantine and Greek statements regarding the safety of the allies' expedition in Macedonia," said M. Cochin. "Every other promise will also be kept true of that I am confident."

While I believe that Greece cannot intervene immediately, yet I am firmly convinced that before long the Greek army will take the field at the side of the allies."

KILL SOLDIERS.

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 30.—Allied aviators bombed the German barracks at Marche, in the Ardennes yesterday, says the Echo Beige, killing many soldiers.