

STATE RAILROAD LAWS AND RAILROAD COMMISSIONS ARE WITHOUT LEGAL STANDING THE PRESIDENT'S PASSAGE OF RATE BILL WIPES OUT STATE CONTROL OF ALL LINES OF TRANSPORTATION

State Courts and Legislatures, Claimed By the Administration to Have No Jurisdiction to Regulate Railroads—Every Act By Every State Legislature, Passed Since June 1, 1906, Unconstitutional and Void.

It means that the two cent fare laws, demurrage laws, safety coupler and similar laws passed by state legislatures are worth no more than the paper they are written upon. Those matters will all be hurried to the supreme court of the United States before Christmas.

It is expected that the railroad control by states will be a thing of the past. The new move refers to within state carriers as well as to interstate carriers.

The passage of the rate bill has done more than anybody expected. It wiped out the state control over all common carriers.

The constitution gives to congress the power over interstate commerce. Up to the passage of the rate law the federal government had not assumed its full power, but by the passing of that act the National Government took full control of the railroads.

The president's opinion is that states have no control and he is backed by Chief Justice Marshall in the case of Ogden vs. Gibbons, in which the jurist held that a steamship plying between New York and Albany was engaged in interstate commerce, although it didn't leave the state waters.

It is expected that the destruction of states' rights will raise a big howl by the senators.

George B. Cortelyou, present secretary of the treasury, are even more pronounced on railroad securities than President Roosevelt.

Mr. Shaw, in his efforts to establish the elastic currency, interpreted the law as being in favor of a high grade of railroad bonds, and permitted the banks to place with the United States treasury railroad and other bonds to increase their circulation conditional upon the basis of government bonds.

It is openly said that Secretary Cortelyou considers the method most unsatisfactory and that it is not conducive to the country's financial stability.

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WORLD IS TOO QUIET. (Serrips Telegraph Service.) LONDON, March 19.—John Mills, the seismologist, says the world has been so quiet the past fortnight that the indications are that something is threatened.

BANK CLEARINGS. March 19, 1907... \$2,034,613.44 March 19, 1906... 1,716,140.64 Increase over same date last year... \$ 318,472.80

H. G. BURGMAN IS CONVICTED. H. G. Burgman, of the Minnesota cafe, appeared before Judge Gordon, charged with having sold liquor on Sunday, and was fined \$75 and costs, from which decision an appeal was taken by his attorney Judge Bell.

NO ACTION ON HAY. The members of the city council last night refused to take a vote for the confirmation of John Hay, the latest appointee of Mayor Moore for superintendent of streets.

TRAINMEN TAKE STRIKE VOTE. It was learned today that the trainmen on some 40 odd railroads west of Chicago are completing a poll to decide whether they shall declare a strike on the railroad companies.

BUY OWN BOAT AND SAVES \$70. The launch Coldfoot was sold at auction this morning by Deputy United States Marshal Stringer. The highest bidder was H. Smith, one of the former owners.

COLONEL GLASSFORD FACING GRAVE CHARGE. Charges that Col. William A. Glassford, head of the United States Signal Corps operating the cable between Seattle and Alaska points, has been guilty of irregularities in the conduct of his office.

COMMITTEE TO MEET. A meeting of the Commercial Club legislative committee will be held tomorrow afternoon in the club rooms. At last night's meeting, house bill No. 159, relating to the improvement of waterways was referred to this committee for action.

WANT ANOTHER SERVICE. Several of the Alaskan papers, becoming dissatisfied with the McCormack service, deputized Edward Russell, one of the largest newspaper men in Seattle and arranged for an improved service.

WORK ON BUILDINGS CLOSED DOWN. Operations on a number of buildings under construction by members of the Master Builders' association were suspended today pending the adjustment of the differences between the building trades unions and the employers.

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MYRA CONSTANTINE TO BESMURCH HALL'S NAME

Young Wife Will Aid Father's Insanity Plea by Testifying to Story She Told Him of Her Husband's Cruelty—Her Position in Case Duplicate That of Evelyn Thaw.

In the conduct of the case, the Constantine trial, which will begin next Monday in Seattle, will be almost identical with the Thaw case in New York, and the Mitchell case in Seattle.

William Constantine will answer to the charge of assault with intent to commit murder upon the person of his son-in-law, Jesse Hall, a young business man of this city, who, a few months previously, had eloped with and married Constantine's only daughter, Myra.

Constantine has two defenses from which to choose, insanity or self defense, as there is no possible foundation for the latter, the plea will undoubtedly be temporary insanity, produced by stories told to the defendant by the daughter accusing Hall of brutal and inhuman conduct toward her.

Hall is Threatened. Various reports as to the character of these stories as they reached the public. It has been stated by friends of Hall that some time ago word was sent to him in an indirect way that unless he would accept offers of settlement and absent himself at the time of the trial, his wife would go on the stand and tell a story that would for all time blacken Hall's reputation and compel him to leave Seattle.

With an insanity defense, Myra Constantine Hall, wife of the prosecuting witness and daughter of the defendant, will be the principal witness for her father.

Pleading temporary insanity as an excuse for the crime, witnesses may be put on the stand by the defense to relate any conversation ever held in the presence of the defendant regarding improper treatment of Myra Hall by her husband, Jesse Hall.

The significant feature of this plea is advanced, with the fact that young Hall will be in no position to submit testimony to combat the charges made by his wife to her father, the sole question being the effect Mrs. Hall's story had upon her father.

Mrs. Hall will take the stand and repeat the story she will allege to have told her father. She will decide whether the charges were terrible enough to have driven her father temporarily insane.

Expert Testimony. Experts will, of course, be placed on the stand. In all probability alienists will be in constant attendance upon the case, as they were in the Thompson case and in the Mitchell case.

If the evidence develops as expected the Constantine trial promises to be one of the most sensational in the history of this country. Both Prosecuting Attorney Mackintosh and his assistant, Judge Miller, and the defendant's lawyers, Morris, Southard & Shipley, are prepared for a hard legal battle.

By the breweries, in fact owned by them, the alleged owner only acting somewhat as an agent.

In the case given it is specifically set forth that the defendant put up the money of the brewing company, and in no sense nor under any circumstances must it be paid to those in whose name the license runs, should the council refuse to grant a license.

The arrest of Cosgrove Saturday night seems to have been made with the purpose of casting upon him personal odium, for he was taken out of the saloon and his place of business left to run as it might. There was no attempt on the part of the officers to lock up the place or close it up.

Cosgrove, the man, was wanted, not the saloon, and it was Cosgrove himself who caused the doors to be locked until the time when it should be known what he was to come of it. Cosgrove said he did not want to come to trial on a charge of violating a state law and he declared to the court that not only had he violated the law, but had constantly violated the law ever since his arrest.

Cosgrove's Place Closed. The place was still closed today, and Cosgrove stated at noon that no one had been given his suggestion that he reopen.

COUNTRY'S FINANCIAL POLICY TO BE CHANGED

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FIFTY ARE DROWNED

COPENHAGEN, March 19.—The Danish training ship Viking was blown over today during a storm and with 400 workmen aboard at the time. It is believed 50 were drowned.

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CITY TO GUARD CROSSINGS

An ordinance was introduced last night in the council authorizing a settlement of the crossing flagman question with the Seattle Electric company, in conformity with the arrangement made by Mayor Moore with the company officials. This is the payment of \$450 a month to the city and the use of police officers instead of company flagmen.

FRED LANGWAY DIES. Fred Langway, formerly a funeral director of Groville, Wash., died last night at the Providence hospital. Langway was a member of the Groville aerie, Fraternal Order of Eagles, in good standing.

DECEASED LEAVES A WIFE, AND WAS 34 YEARS OLD. While in this city the couple lived at 107 Seventh av.

NEW FIRE APPARATUS. Preliminary steps were taken by the council last night for procuring a large amount of additional fire apparatus, consisting of several engines, hose wagons, pipe, etc. The board of public works will call for bids.

GRAND JURY AFTER WALSH. (Serrips Telegraph Service.) CHICAGO, March 19.—A further investigation into the banking methods of Millionaire Walsh was ordered by Judge Anderson this morning in impaneling a new federal grand jury, which was instructed to investigate the alleged violations of the banking laws prior to the division in 1905 by the judicial circuit court.

Under the new passenger rates of the Canadian Pacific, effective April 1, passengers may secure through rates from Kootenai and Pacific coast points by way of Winnipeg for Chicago, St. Paul and intermediate points at the regular transcontinental rates.

Previously the road charged a rate of \$10 extra to go the same route by way of Winnipeg.

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BETTER RATES OVER CANADIAN PACIFIC

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MILLION DOLLAR GRAFT IS EXPOSED AT FRISCO

Known That Fifteen Supervisors Confessed to the Grand Jury Which Held Session All Night—Only One City Official Will Escape—Ruef Like a Tiger in a Cage.

have confessed that he received \$5,000 for his vote. Ruef Paces Chambers. Ruef spent a night of horrors in his squalid quarters at the St. Francis. Cut off from friends, he paced the small room in agony, doubt and terror.

For the first time since his indictment and arrest he now realizes the seriousness of his predicament. Time and again he threw himself on his bed in an effort to sleep, but after a few moments rest would jump from the bed and resume his ceaseless tramp.

Ellisor Bigley remained in the room with him all night, fearing the prisoner would attempt to do himself bodily harm.

Twelve Counts for Halsey. Halsey, it was stated, will be indicted on at least 12 counts. Rumors some of which and fast as the day grew sadder, and indictments will be against practically every person mentioned as having been concerned in yesterday's proceedings.

One indictment, it is stated, will be against Nellie Smith, the confidential stenographer for Gerstel, Thomas & Frick, attorneys for the Home company.

The grand jury is not satisfied with the evidence she gave yesterday. Burns and his assistants claim they have positive evidence that she is the person who took the stenographic notes and confidential communication between the attorney and officials of the Home company and the supervisors.

It is also claimed she knows who took the bribe money, how much it was, where and by whom passed.

It is understood at the district attorney's office that Gerstel, Thomas & Frick will also be indicted. A true bill will also be returned against a high official of the United Railways, and it is significantly stated, also against members and high officials of the United States Telephone company.

The railroad officials who were called before the grand jury to give testimony, and are the ones in the greatest danger.

One of the many reports in circulation is to the effect this morning that the names of Schmitz and Patrick Callahan, president of the United Railroads, were thrown into the indictment hopper, and that the indictment against Schmitz will be immediately presented to the superior court for a hearing in outer proceedings.

Garvey-Buchanan's Opening Tomorrow. An elaborate musical program has been planned for the formal opening at the Garvey-Buchanan store tomorrow evening between the hours of 7:30 and 9 o'clock. Prior's Savoy orchestra will furnish music for the occasion. The store will be decorated with native foliage and Easter lilies, while numerous canary birds will be hidden beneath the decorations. Souvenirs will be given to the visitors.

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AGREEMENT ON U. P. TUNNEL REACHED

After several days of conference between Mayor Moore, City Engineer Thomson and J. D. Farrell and other officials of the Union Pacific over the company's proposed tunnel under the city, an agreement has been reached concerning that part of it that will pass under the new municipal building at Fifth av. and Yesler way.

The railroad company is to set about, at once, the construction of that part of the tunnel and complete it before the city erects the building.

The dirt is to be taken out through a shaft that will be sunk over the tunnel route and the big bore excavated for a distance that will take it past all danger of damage to the city's structure. It will be for a distance of about 250 feet, extending across Yesler way on the south and Terrace st. on the north.

Masonry piers are to be sunk and stable ground found for the foundations of the building and that part of the tunnel is not only to be bored but it is to be encased in concrete and the outside tamped with cement. The details of the work are yet to be worked out by the engineers of the railroad and the city but the general plan has been agreed to.

Mr. Farrell has stated that it will be the intention of the company to work three shifts of men in the tunnel taking up every hour of the 24. In the meantime, while this work is progressing, the city will be busy assembling its material and will be carrying on work on the Fourth av. side of the new building so that no time will be lost.

THEATER CASES WILL BE TRIED TOGETHER

The theater managers will not make common cause with the liquor element to compel Mayor Moore to change his policy with reference to the enforcement of the Sunday closing law.

No attorney has yet been engaged but the probability is that they will have the same lawyer try all the cases as the facts and law in all of them are the same.

A person closely connected with one of the principal theatrical managers, speaking to a "Star" reporter today, said: "If by the course which the liquor dealers have taken they intended to force us to make common cause with them they are seriously mistaken. We will not be driven into doing that, we don't belong in the same category. We may decide to close up or we may pay the fines if our Sunday patronage warrants it. It all depends upon the public itself. If the public believes in having theaters open on Sunday it will patronize them, and then we can afford to pay the fines."

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