

RISK MEN NOT TO CANCEL POLICIES

SUPREME COURT RESTRAINS INSURANCE CONCERNS FROM QUITTING STATE.

ARE ORDERED TO SHOW CAUSE

Three Judges Dissent as to Right to Call in Policies, but the Court is a Unit as to All Other Questions That Are Involved.

Jefferson City, Mo.—The supreme court, in an opinion written by Judge Woodson, overruled the demurrer of the fire insurance companies to the writ of quo warranto asked by the attorney general, and held that the court had jurisdiction to try the questions involved in the controversy, and that the proceedings brought by the state officers were proper.

The companies now must file their answer to the petition to show cause why they should not be penalized for withdrawing from business in Missouri, and when that is done the court will appoint a commissioner to take testimony in the case.

The supreme court also issued a temporary restraining order prohibiting the insurance companies from cancelling insurance pending the disposition of the quo warranto suits. On this point the court was divided, Judges Brown, Walker and Farris dissenting from the opinion of the majority.

Provisions of Law.

The litigation in this case was instituted by the attorney general in May last, when the companies announced that, under the provisions of the Orr anti-trust law, passed by the last legislature, they could not continue writing insurance without subjecting the agents and officers of the companies to prosecution for violation of the law.

The last clause of the Orr law, which the insurance companies declare particularly offensive and drastic, provided that if two or more companies used the same rate basis in writing insurance they would be held guilty of conspiring or combining to fix rates, and it would be prima facie evidence of such combination, for one company to use any book, sheet, schedule or table of rates for writing insurance, which was used by any other company as a basis of writing insurance.

Standard to Stay in State.

Jefferson City.—The state supreme court issued an order permitting the Standard Oil Co. of Indiana to resume business in Missouri and suspending the ouster during good behavior. The court retains jurisdiction of the case and confers power upon the attorney general to institute proceedings if he has information that the company is not complying with the laws of the state.

New Parish in the Capital.

Jefferson City.—The Catholic church has decided to establish another parish here, which probably will take in about one-third of the city and all of the eastern suburbs. The congregation of St. Peter's church has become so large as to necessitate another parish. There are more than 500 families in the present parish, and it takes in a great deal of territory, crossing the Missouri river and taking in a portion of Callaway county.

Convicts to Prison Again.

Jefferson City.—Norman H. Moss, parole officer of the Illinois penitentiary at Chester, came here to get warrants from Gov. Major, on requisition of Gov. Dunne, for the return to that state of Patrick Doyle and George Brown.

The men are about to complete sentences in the Missouri penitentiary and will be taken to Chester to serve sentences there. They violated paroles by coming to Missouri.

Brown, whose term will expire at once, was sentenced from St. Louis four years ago for five years for robbery in the first degree. He was sent to Chester from Sangamon county in November, 1906, under an indeterminate sentence for burglary and larceny and was paroled in July, 1909, to W. T. Erwin of East St. Louis.

Gettysburg Pilgrim Postdated.

Joplin.—George Wilson of Laclede, Mo., a veteran of the civil war, was prostrated by the heat while walking from a hotel to the railroad station here. Wilson was on his way to Gettysburg to attend the semicentennial reunion. He was hurried to a hospital. His condition is dangerous.

Team Shies at Auto, Kills Driver.

Cape Girardeau.—Charles Sanders, a young man living near Jackson, was killed when his team became frightened at an automobile. He was thrown from his vehicle and his neck broken.

Piedmont Revival Ends.

Piedmont.—The Hay-Bell-Huggins-Gilbert revival that has been held in Piedmont for five weeks has closed. The meeting was conducted in a large tent and later in the Presbyterian church. Many converts are reported.

Will District U. S. to Value Roads.

Jefferson City.—Chairman John M. Atkinson of the Missouri utilities commission, upon returning from Washington, where he attended the conference of western states' representatives with President Wilson and the interstate commerce commission, made the following statement relative to the results accomplished by the conference:

"In accordance with the revisions of the act passed by congress, authorizing and empowering the interstate commerce commission to ascertain the physical value of all interstate railroads, the commission has appointed a board of appraisers, composed of five expert engineers, who are now engaged in making the preliminary plans for this stupendous task of appraising the national railroads.

"The commission has divided the United States into five districts, and will have each district under the supervision of one of said engineers. Commissioner Prouty of the interstate commerce commission has been assigned the direct supervision of the appraisal work.

"All the railroads of the United States already have perfected an organization relative to the appraisal work to be done by the interstate commerce commission. The United States has been divided into three districts with three expert railroad engineers selected from each district.

"The railroads have also selected three of the ablest attorneys and three experts on real estate values to co-operate with the nine engineers to look after the appraisal work from the standpoint of the railroads. The valuation of the railroads of the United States is estimated at \$15,000,000,000.

"While the power is given the public service commission to ascertain the physical value of railroads in Missouri for the purpose of making statistics, yet the expense of such a valuation would cost the state of Missouri anywhere from a quarter a half million dollars.

"The states of Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma have perfected an organization through the chairman of their respective commissions to see that the value of the railroads in their respective states are fairly ascertained from the standpoint of the public.

"The chairman of the National Association of Railway Commissioners, representing all the state associations, appointed a committee to co-operate with the interstate commerce commission in ascertaining the physical value of the railroads.

"The members of the state commission of the following states were appointed on said special committee:

"Martin of Kansas, Henshaw of Oklahoma, Thorne of Iowa, Burr of Florida, Finn of Kentucky, Berry of Illinois, Glasgow of Michigan, Staples of Minnesota, Decker of New York, Erickson of Wisconsin, Daniels of New Jersey, Gotthilf of Ohio, Maitlis of New York, Richards of South Carolina, Bishop of Massachusetts, Staatsman of North Dakota and Atkinson of Missouri.

"This special committee will meet and organize at an early date, and will take an active part in co-operating with the interstate commerce commission in ascertaining railroad values.

"Just when the work will begin in Missouri I cannot say, but I should think it will begin in the course of a very few months.

"It was the unanimous opinion of all the state commissioners present that an advocate should be appointed by the interstate commerce commission or the president, to appear at all hearings, both formal and informal, and lend all assistance possible in developing the real value of the railroad properties."

Troops as Flood Heroes Are Praised

Jefferson City.—Adj. Gen. John H. O'Meara filed with Gov. Major a report of the service of the National Guard of Missouri in protecting the levees in southeast Missouri during the overflow in March and April.

The companies of the Sixth infantry were on this detail from March 23 to April 19. It cost the state \$9,115.35 to do the work.

There being no available fund to pay the bills, this amount will have to be carried until the next session of the legislature makes a deficiency appropriation to meet it.

Gen. O'Meara says this was the greatest flood in this section; the river was higher and the territory requiring protection was much greater than ever before.

"Not only did the troops guard the threatened levees to prevent their being cut," says the report, "but the men worked heroically in saving life and property and in relieving the distress of the afflicted people."

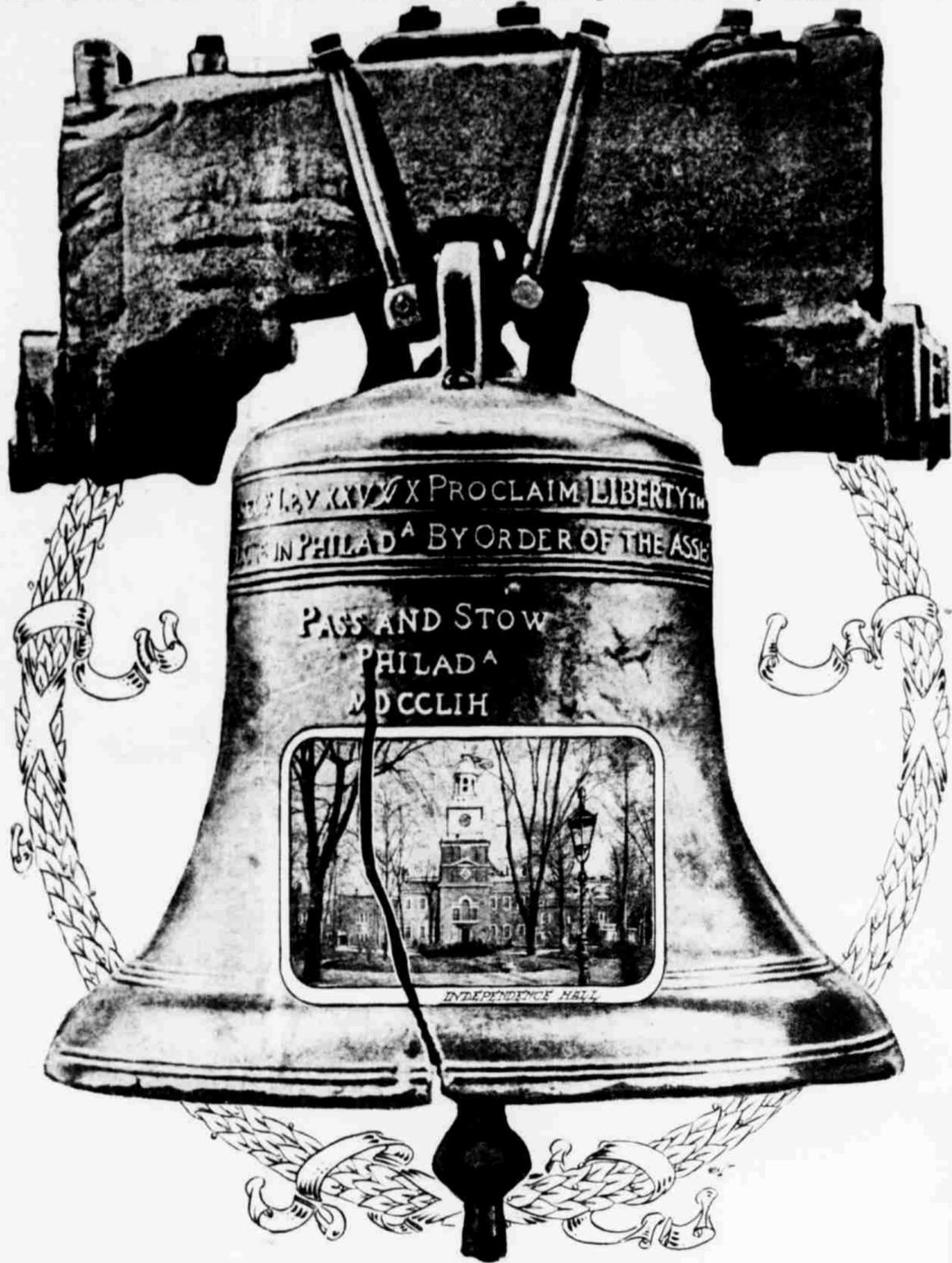
Gen. O'Meara compliments the tireless efforts of Col. Arthur L. Oliver, commander of the Sixth regiment, his officers and men.

Gen. O'Meara concludes his report with the following suggestion:

Insurance Company Gets Charter.

Jefferson City.—The Mercantile Town Mutual Fire Insurance company of Kansas City completed the necessary preliminaries for securing incorporation papers, and received a charter from Secretary of State Roach. The offices of the company are: Philip S. Brown, Jr., president; Reynold Barman, secretary, and Homer B. Mann, treasurer. Among the incorporators are former Gov. Herbert S. Hadley, A. L. Cooper, John R. Crowe and George S. Edwards.

LIBERTY BELL IN DANGER



INC negotiations have already been opened by the management of the Panama exposition and commonwealth of California with the city of Philadelphia to obtain the Liberty Bell as one of the exhibits for that occasion, and since it seems that the crack in the bell is extending a definite settlement of the question as to whether the relic should be permitted to travel any more appears to be about due, and just now, when the anniversary of the nation's independence is upon us, is a reasonable time for discussion of the matter.

Wilfred Jordan, curator of the Independence Hall Museum, measured the second crack before the bell's last journey and then measured it again after its return. He found that it had increased in length to a slight degree.

No one knows just when this second crack occurred, and opinions differ, but compared to the old crack it is of recent origin and is distinctly visible. Mr. Jordan, however, was the first to call attention to a long and almost invisible extension of the second crack and finds that it now reaches one-third way around the bell, from the end of the old original fracture, which was chiseled out in 1846 in an attempt to make the bell sound properly.

Putting an end to the bell's pilgrimages would in no sense at all be due to a disinclination of the people or councils of Philadelphia to allow the west to view and possess the sacred relic even for a short time. Indeed Philadelphia would be only too glad to send it, for since the bell has already helped by its travels to lessen the sectional feelings between the north and south, so it would help unite the citizens of our republic who live on the Atlantic seaboard with those who live on the Pacific.

Little do either sections realize how intimately the bell is connected with the consummation of our nation, early political ideals and with the fondest of its impulses in Colonial days. This old bronze relic not only helped to proclaim independence, but for years before 1776 rang loud to celebrate the hopes of the people and rang low to intone their woes!

Upon its sides is this inscription: "And proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof."—Lev. 25, 10. A strange Providence indeed wrote that inscription on its crown many years before its throbbing clangors and melodious eloquence had aught at all to do with liberty!

Announcing proclamations of war and treaties of peace; welcoming the arrival and bidding God-speed to departing notables; proclaiming some accession of the English royal family to the throne and the secession therefrom of the American colonies! Its more customary use, however, was to call the members of the assembly of Pennsylvania together at the morning and afternoon sessions and to announce the opening of the courts.

Despite the fact that the Liberty Bell is one of the most treasured of national relics, it is not originally an American product, but a foreign importation and imported from England, too, where it was first cast according to the order given in October, 1751, by the superintendents of the state house of the Province of Pennsylvania—now Independence Hall.

Thomas Lester of White Chapel, London, cast the bell, and by August, 1752, it arrived in Philadelphia and was erected on trusses in the state house yard. While being tolled and tested early in September of the same year it was cracked by the clapper, though by no unusually powerful stroke. Concerning this accident, Isaac Morris wrote, March 10, 1753:

"Though the news of our new bell cracking is not very agreeable to us, we concluded to send it back by Captain Budden, who had brought it from London last August, but he could not take it on board, upon which two ingenious workmen undertook to cast it here, and I am just now informed they have this day opened the mould and have got a good bell, which I confess pleases me very much, that we should first venture upon and succeed in the greatest bell cast, for aught I know, in English America. The mould was finished in a very masterly manner, and the letters, I am told, are better than (on) the old one. When we broke up the metal our judges here generally agreed it was too high and brittle, and cast several little bells out of it to try the sound and strength, and fixed upon a mixture of an ounce and a half of copper to the pound of the old bell, and in this proportion we now have it."

Herman Pass, from the Island of Malta, and Jacob Stow, a son of Charles Stow, the doorkeeper of the assembly, were the two ingenious workmen referred to in the above letter. After the second casting of the bell it was again hung and tested in the spring of 1753. More defects were soon found, however. The American casters, Pass and Stow, who were not bell founders by trade at all, had put too much copper in the metal so that its sound was impaired. Disappointed with that failure and also nettled at the gibes of their townsmen concerning it, they asked permission to cast the bell a second time. Thomas Lester, the original maker of it, also offered his services, but the authorities decided to allow Pass and Stow to proceed again, and thus the third and present casting was made, and again the bell was raised; this time in the state house steeple itself. That operation was completed by the end of August of 1753, when the American casters were paid £60 13s. 5d. for their labors.

Then began its chimes, August 27, 1753, when it called the assembly together, ringing out the old, ringing in the new; sounding its melodies for innumerable public and private events during more than four-score of years.

The first individual for whom it rang was Franklin; sent "home to England" to ask redress for the grievances of the colonies in February, 1757.

The bell echoed the hopes of the people's hear and its melodious "Bon Voyage" sounded over in Delaware as he sailed away.

When the plating and splitting mills were closed and the manufacture of iron and steel products was prohibited by acts of parliament in Pennsylvania and the king's arrow was affixed upon pine-trees and the trade of the colonies it all parts of the world restrained the bell was again tolled to assemble the people in the state house yard to protest against such outrages.

Thus did the bell, long before the Revolution, become the beloved symbol of truth and freedom, reinforcing with pugnacious and vibrant peals, the cry of determined citizens, in the largest political meeting held up to that time in the state house yard, that none of the ship "Polley's" detestable tea, that had just been brought into the port, should be funneled down their throats with parliament duty mixed with it.

When the port of Boston was closed in May, 1774, and the heart of the country was growing heavier with its affliction, the bell was once more carefully muffled and tolled in a solemn and prophetic manner, both to announce the closing of the port and a little later, to call a meeting to relieve suffering in Boston on account of the restriction of its trade.

As the conflict with England approached the bell was rung more and more, its use became a matter of course, and then, on April 25, 1775, just after the reports came to Philadelphia of the Battle of Lexington, it rang wildly to assemble 8,000 people in the state house yard and to inspire their souls to a resolution pledging their all to the cause of liberty.

It rang also to assemble the Continental congress to its daily sessions, both at Carpenter's hall and Independence hall, and finally, its crowning achievement, the one wild, defiant and joyful ringing that, more than all the previous reverberations it made, gave it the sacred name of "The Liberty Bell," occurred on July 8 (and not the 4th, as is generally believed) after the Declaration of Independence had been adopted.

This greatest of its jubilees called the citizens together in the yard to hear read in the stentorian tones of John Nixon the first public proclamation of the Declaration, and never did the old wooden rafters of the state house steeple rock and tremble with more sympathetic vibration than at this time.

When returned to the old state house steeple again one of its first uses was to ring upon the announcement of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, in October, 1781, and in the following month to toll in welcoming Washington to the city. A year and a half later it helped to proclaim the treaty of peace with Great Britain, and in December, 1799, it was muffled for the first time in many years, though not to mourn for lost liberty or over tyrannical deeds, but to lend its almost hushed music to the funeral solemnities of Washington himself.