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TILLMAN TO REPORT

The Selection of a Democrat Was Unexpected

DETAILS OF THIS CHOICE

Provision for Court Review Will Probably Be Adopted

Such an Amendment, it is believed, will command practically all of the Republican votes, and many Democrats would accept the change. Action of the committee in deciding to report the bill furnishes the topic for interesting discussion of the rate situation—Senator Tillman gives his views on the measure.

Washington, February 24.—Yesterday's developments in connection with the railroad rate problem in the senate committee on interstate commerce continued to be the uppermost topic about the capitol today. There were comparatively few senators in their committee rooms, but those who were here were busily engaged in discussing the situation. Among the most active were Senators Aldrich, Dooliver, Clapp and Elkins, all members of the interstate commerce committee. Senator Tillman, to whom was so unexpectedly assigned the duty of reporting the bill, was detained at his home by illness.

Communication with him over the telephone. He told them that he had a slight cold, but felt no doubt that he would be able to appear in his seat in the senate on Monday when he would report the bill as directed by the committee.

The unexpected assignment of Mr. Tillman to this duty received as much attention as the sudden determination to report the bill. Members of the committee were full of reminiscences, interesting of these was the story of the details of Mr. Tillman's selection. His name was proposed, as has been stated, by Senator Aldrich but he was not mentioned in that connection until after considerable discussion of the advisability of selecting some one else for the service. The first intention was to confer the honor upon Senator Cullom, as the oldest member of the committee, but when he cast his fortunes with the advocates of the straight Hepburn Dooliver bill, the jority of the republicans manifested an inclination to drop him, and Senator Elkins, the chairman of the committee, was suggested. Senator Clapp then made the point that a supporter of the bill should be chosen to report it to the senate and take charge of it. Then Senator Aldrich, representing the five republican opponents of the measure, immediately fell in with this suggestion, and said that he thought that Mr. Tillman should have the duty as the senior democratic member of the committee. Mr. Clapp nominated Senator Dooliver. As has been stated, Senator Tillman was chosen.

Speaking today of Mr. Tillman's selection, Senator Aldrich expressed great satisfaction saying that under the circumstances it was the wisest and best that could be made.

Already there is much discussion on the subject of amendments, and it was made evident today that the scene of activity in behalf of a modification in favor of a court review provision had been transferred from the committee room to the floor of the senate. It is the belief that with such an amendment the bill will secure practically all of the republican votes, and the claim was made that a majority of the republican senators would stand out for such a change. The republican members of the committee who refused to vote for the bill in its present shape, say that there are over thirty who will stand with them to the end of this change. Many of the democratic senators also have expressed willingness to accept such a provision. Commenting on the bill today, Senator Tillman said:

"The first thing to do is to discover and incorporate in the bill the amendments necessary to perfect. There was no opportunity in the house of representatives to amend the bill, and there are two very essential amendments needed to make the law at all adequate.

"One is the strongest possible prohibition of the ownership and control by public carriers of the articles to be shipped over their lines, to the exclusion of private ownership, in other words, the railroads have a tendency to deal in some of the commodities that it was supposed they would only handle in the capacity of carriers. This applies principally to the coal business. They also should be required to make connections with spur lines, to contributory lines, and supply them with cars and not block them.

"The question of adding to the provision now in the bill for a judicial review of the findings of the interstate commerce commission should be approached very cautiously. In the first place, a decision of the commission has the same standing as an act of congress pending an appeal, unless it should take a high handed course. I can see no reason why a decision of the commission should be set aside pending an appeal in the courts.

"For one, I am not inclined to accord to the members of the inter-state

commerce commission any less patriotism or good judgment than is accorded the judges on the bench."

When asked if his relation toward the bill would probably lead to frequent conferences with the president, the senator meditated a moment, and replied:

"The president's views are well understood. He has expressed himself very fully in his message and in interviews. The newspapers have not spared any opportunity to announce what they suppose has been his views on this subject. Therefore, there is no further need for anybody to get his views and he has been very free to communicate his views to congress whenever he has seen fit to do so.

"Do you take the view that this railroad legislation is a democratic measure, now that it has been reported by a majority of democrats on the committee, and by a democratic senator?"

"It is a non-partisan measure," replied Senator Tillman. "It is neither republican nor democratic, but it can no longer be called a republican measure."

Senator Aldrich will on Monday make a statement on the floor of the senate outlining his attitude toward railroad rate legislation. He announced both to senators and newspaper men today that people who supposed he was opposed to legislation were very much mistaken.

Senator Dooliver and Clapp were the subjects of congratulations, and both expressed great satisfaction over the result of the committee's deliberations. Mr. Dooliver manifested no chagrin over the selection of Mr. Tillman as the floor manager for the bill, but said that he would secure all the satisfaction possible if so meritorious a measure could become a law. He was seen just after he had left the White house, where he had had a conference with the president, and he assured all those with whom he came in contact that the president was quite as delighted over the prospect as himself.

Senator Elkins, one of the republican members of the committee, who did not vote for the bill, expressed the opinion that the bill would pass. It is not thought that the bill will be taken up for continued consideration for two or three weeks as the senators who desire to participate in its discussion, find it necessary to take time to prepare for the duty.

SENTENCED TO BE HUNG

Charles Coleman Will Pay the Penalty of His Crime Next Tuesday.

Shreveport, La., February 24.—Charles Coleman, the negro charged with having assaulted and murdered Miss Margaret Lear, was convicted in the district court here today after a trial lasting three hours. Governor Blanchard, who attended the trial, signed the death sentence. Next Tuesday, between the hours of 9 a. m., and 2 p. m., was fixed as the hours of execution.

A jury was secured within a comparatively short time this morning. The evidence introduced was conclusive, and a verdict was returned three minutes after the case was given to the jur and Judge Bell who presided immediately passed the death sentence on the negro.

Four military companies were on guard about the court house during the trial, and all persons who attended were searched as they approached the building. There was no demonstration, and the feeling is still intense. It is believed that the law will be allowed to take its course. The militia will remain until after the execution.

TWO STREET CAR ACCIDENTS

Wrecks Near Pittsburg, in Which Thirty Two People Were Injured, Three Fatally.

Pittsburg, Pa., February 24.—Thirty-two people were injured, three fatally, this evening in two separate street car wrecks on the Milvale and Etna division of the Pittsburg Railways company. The first accident occurred near Bennett, Pa., a few miles above this city when an electric car, carrying thirty passengers jumped the track and went over a forty five foot embankment, painfully injuring a majority of the passengers. The second accident occurred on the same division just a mile below the scene of the first accident and only twenty minutes later. There were 17 passengers on the second car, which also left the tracks, going over a fifteen foot embankment, badly cutting and bruising the occupants. Nearly all the passengers on both cars were hurt, but thirty two are known to have sustained severe injuries, while three are expected to die. No cause can be assigned for the wrecks unless the frost coming out of the ground, as a result of the warm weather, affected the roadbed, causing the rails to spread.

RAILROAD SHOPS ON FIRE

Big Conflagration Threatens to Destroy Plant of the Inter-Colonial Railroad Company.

Moncton, N. B., February 24.—A serious fire started tonight in the shop of the Inter-Colonial railroad in this city. The paint shop containing the private car of Earl Grey, governor general of Canada, and fifteen passenger coaches, has been destroyed together with the contents. At 10 o'clock, the car manufacturing plant, 600 feet in length, was burning furiously and the locomotive shops were threatened. The various shops are valued at more than \$1,000,000. At 11 o'clock the fire had communicated to the locomotive works.

Several other buildings in the railroad yards were damaged, but it was thought that they could be saved. In the car manufacturing plant more than 100 cars and a large quantity of costly machinery were destroyed. The total loss will reach one million dollars.

THREE DEAD IN FIRE

Flames Destroy Kenyon Academy Buildings

NINE SERIOUSLY INJURED

Students and Professors Asleep When the Fire Started

Flames Quickly Spread Through the College Buildings—Several Narrow Escapes Caused by Falling Walls. Search for Missing Boys Greatly Impeded by the Fact That the Ruins Were Still Hot—Property Loss is Estimated at \$100,000. With Sixty Per Cent Insurance.

Gambier, Ohio, February 24.—Three are dead, and nine seriously injured, and several others more or less hurt as a result of a fire which destroyed Milner Hall, Kenyon military academy, Delano and North halls and North annex early today. The fire broke out at 4 a. m., while the students and college authorities were asleep, and quickly spread through the buildings named which were consumed. The search for the missing boys, the bodies of whom it is now certain are in the ruins, was kept up till late this afternoon, when the walls of the burned structure fell, and their recovery tonight is now regarded as improbable for some time. The search during the day was impeded by the fact that the ruins were still red hot, and made passage through them nearly impossible.

The falling walls this afternoon barely missed Dr. Peirce, president of Kenyon, and Regents Wiant and Williams who were leading a party of rescuers through the ruins. The dead and injured are all students of the military academy and old Kenyon. Parents, sisters and brothers of the dead and injured students arrive on every train. The news of the fire spread quickly all over the state, and telegrams were sent at once by the college authorities to parents of the boys injured. The messages were not made alarming, but even while mildly stating the case aroused grave apprehensions, and the anxious fathers and mothers have rushed to aid their loved ones.

The property loss by the destruction of the buildings is estimated at \$100,000, with sixty per cent insurance.

Following is a list of the missing and injured:

Missing, believed dead: Henderson, Everett, eighteen, of Illinois; Kuhnkeel, Winfield Scott, fifteen, of Ashabula; Foler, James A., eighteen, of Warren, Ohio.

The injured: Barnes, Harry, C., Cleveland, spine injured and leg broken from jumping four stories, may die; Baker, Lexon W., Cleveland, internally injured, jumped four stories; Nicholson, J. Underwood, Steubenville, terribly burned about body, may die.

Dahannon, R. A., Wellsville, N. Y., badly bruised from jumping; Thierworkser, Homer, Oak Harbor, Ohio, badly burned about the arms; Bierell, A. G., Columbus, feet badly burned.

Galway, F. R., commercial master, Adrian, Mich., internally injured, may die; Dorsey, W. O., Dallas, Texas, badly bruised, jumped three stories; Brown, Arthur, Cincinnati, student at Old Kenyon, badly cut while assisting in the rescue.

Barnes was one of the last to leave the Delano hall, and jumped from the fourth story window into a blanket. The blanket gave way and he was precipitated onto the pavement sustaining injuries to the back. One leg was broken. He will die.

Eighty-five boys were in the dormitory when the fire broke out. An effort was made to effect the military formation, but the younger students forgot their military training, and rushed about the burning building in a panic, shrieking and crying for help.

The Drydock Dewey Signaled. Las Palmas, Canary Islands, Feb. 23.—The U. S. drydock Dewey was signalled off this port today. The Dewey reports having encountered heavy weather in the vicinity of the island of Bermuda resulting in strains. It is the intention that the drydock shall remain here a fortnight for overhauling and repairing.

To Investigate Affairs of the V. P. I. Richmond, Va., February 24.—Delegated Thornton, of Appomattox, gave notice today that he would on Monday introduce in the house a resolution providing for a thorough investigation of charges recently made against the management of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

BODY RIDDLED WITH BULLETS

Mob of Five Hundred Shot to Death Weltz Page

ATTEMPTED CRIMINAL ASSAULT

After Shooting the Body Was Burned. Negro Made a Full Confession Before His Death—Military Company, Ordered by the Governor, Arrived After the Lynching.

Shreveport, La., February 24.—A mob of five hundred men shot to death Weltz Page, a negro, aged 30 years, and afterwards burned the body near the town of Bienville, in Bienville parish, this afternoon.

The negro was captured during last night, and was suspected of being the one who attempted a criminal assault on Sarah Grant, a 11-year old school girl yesterday afternoon.

Page was identified by the girl and when a deputy sheriff started to jail with him a mob overpowered the officers, and took the negro. He was taken to the scene of the crime, where he made a full confession. The mob then stood him up against a tree and shot him to death, riddling his body with bullets. More than 500 shots were fired.

After the shooting a fire was kindled around the body of the negro, and the mob remained until it had been cremated.

A military company, ordered by Governor Blanchard from Homer, La., reached the scene of the lynching, but when they arrived the mob had dispersed and quiet was restored.

BURIED IN POTTER'S FIELD

None of the Chicago Cemeteries Would Allow the Interment of Hoch in Their Grounds.

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 21.—The body of Johann Hoch lay today in the county morgue at Dunning, Ill., while the undertaker who had agreed to enter the corpse at his own expense and the two clergymen who were on the scaffold yesterday when Hoch was hanged, vainly tried to find a burial place.

After repeated efforts to secure a final resting place for the body of Hoch in the city cemeteries, the two clergymen finally despaired, and the body was interred in the potter's field adjoining the county poor farm at Dunning.

The authorities of Waldheim cemetery refused to allow Hoch to be buried there, as did the officials of Forest Home cemetery, and those of St. Lucas cemetery, after the cemetery was asked by telephone to permit the burial of Hoch, but all of them refused, saying that the owners of cemetery lots objected to the interment of those who had been hanged. It was not expected that objection would be offered at Waldheim, as in that cemetery, Spiss, Parsons, Engel and Fischer, the executed anarchists, are buried, but the officers of the Waldheim cemetery declared that the burial of the anarchists had brought such unpleasant notoriety to their cemetery that under no circumstances would they ever again give burial to one who had been hanged.

INCREASE IN MINERS WAGES

Coal Operators Have Presented Proposition to the Miners.

Pittsburg, Pa., February 24.—The Pittsburg Dispatch will say tomorrow that the coal operators of the bituminous fields have presented a proposition to the miners restoring the scale of 1903-04. This will be an increase of 5.5 per cent. The operators also request a modification of the demands for an advance of 12 per cent, and ask that the new contract be for two or three years. If the United Mine Workers accept the compromise proposition for 150,000 coal diggers in the four competitive states, including Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois and Indiana, and about 100,000 union men in the southwestern states, will receive an advance in wages.

President John Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers, was apprised of the turn of affairs in New York today, and he immediately flashed back the pleasant news to his personal friends in Pittsburg.

Wreck on the Toledo, Peoria and Western Railroad.

Peoria, Ill., February 24.—A Toledo, Peoria and Western westbound passenger train tonight partly went into a ditch east of Crescent City, Illinois, killing Engineer J. E. Welsh, of Peoria. The locomotive, the baggage car, and the smoking car went into a ditch, and one day coach was turned over. Twenty passengers in the day coaches were bruised. The wreck was caused by the breaking of a flange on the tender. The train was running 35 miles an hour when the accident occurred.

Mr. Louis M. Grant to be Postmaster of Goldsboro.

(Special to The Messenger.) Goldsboro, N. C., February 24.—The recent "hold up" by President Roosevelt of his nomination of Mr. Louis M. Grant to be postmaster of this city, has been lifted, according to inside information, and Mr. Grant is now regularly before the senate for confirmation, and it is safe to say that the president will not further interfere, and that Mr. Grant will be Goldsboro's postmaster for the ensuing four years.

G. P. GOODYEAR ON THE STAND

Interesting Testimony Given During the Day's Progress in the Greene and Gaynor Trial—Dealt With a Contract at Brunswick.

Savannah, Ga., February 24.—The hearing today in the Greene and Gaynor case was one of the most interesting since the trial commenced.

C. P. Goodyear, of Brunswick, was called when court convened. He said that he was the chairman of a board appointed by the mayor and council and board of trade of Brunswick to procure deeper water in 1891 by the use of dynamite in the Brunswick harbor.

He said that the idea was to blow the bottom up with dynamite and let the channel wash the material away. He said that an act of congress in the nature of a contract between him and the government became necessary, and was passed. The act was read the United States agreeing to pay him \$10,000 for each foot deepened.

A survey was made under Captain Carter, Captain Reese being in actual charge. When the survey was finished, he and W. B. Kay, of Brunswick, came to Savannah to see Carter about it.

He told of taking up the work, and said that upon its conclusion measurements were made under Superintendent Carter's direction, Goodyear, then in 1901, came to Savannah to ascertain results. He said that Carter told him that he had failed to secure the required depths and that payment could not be made. According to the witness, Carter then made a proposition to him, saying that he and a firm of contractors had a plan to secure an appropriation of \$2,718,000 from congress for deepening Brunswick harbor. This Carter did not doubt their ability to put through, but they desired the co-operation of Goodyear, who would influence the people of Brunswick and obtain their aid in the project.

Goodyear was not to be ignored when it should come to a division of profits. Carter, he said, told him that \$750,000, the estimated profits would be divided, one third going to Goodyear, one third to the contractors and the remaining third to some one Carter did not designate. Goodyear said he told him he would like to hear from the contractor before abandoning his claim, whereupon Carter pressed a button and John F. Gaynor appeared in response.

The proposition was laid before Gaynor who the witness said, demurred only to one part of Carter's suggestion, which was that Goodyear should be immediately reimbursed for his expenditures upon his dynamite work, and to have his expense defrayed while he was in Washington lobbying for the passage of the necessary bill. This project was gone into to the extent of Goodyear sounding the then congressman from the Brunswick district, who thought no such appropriation could be secured. The matter was dropped, and Goodyear tried to collect on his dynamite work. He said he was confident he had removed three million cubic yards of material from the harbor bed, but Carter reported 218,260 cubic yards removed and the witness said there was in order that Carter might discredit the work done by Goodyear and enhance the chances for getting through his and Greene and Gaynor's twin jetty project.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

State Organization Affected by Alumni in Meeting at Richmond.

Richmond, Va., February 24.—At a meeting of the Virginia alumni of Johns Hopkins University, held here tonight, a state organization was affected with the following officers: President, Dr. W. L. Foushee, of Richmond College; vice president, Professor J. H. Latane, of Washington and Lee University; secretary, Professor Hall Carter, of Randolph-Macon college; executive committee, the above officers, Professor J. F. Leslie Hall, of William and Mary college, and Professor A. H. Tuttle, of the University of Virginia.

The meeting was addressed by Dr. Ira Remsen, president of Johns Hopkins University.

TO CHURCH IN THE MORNING

And to Theatre at Night is Plan Advocated by Miss Sarah Truax.

Chicago, Ill., February 24.—In an address before the actors church alliance at its annual meeting yesterday Miss Sarah Truax, leading woman in a theatrical company appearing in Chicago, advocated the curtailment of Sunday religious services in church to morning services only. A substitute for evening services she proposed that church goers attend a theatrical performance.

"There are many persons who can attend the theatre only on Sunday," she said, "what must they do? The ministers expect them to come to church, but the church cannot offer to them the diversion to which they are entitled after a hard week of work. Therefore let the people go to church in the morning and to the theatre at night."

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Manila, February 24.—Active preparations continue here for a possible emergency in China. Major General Leonard Wood has postponed his contemplated trip to Mindanao. A list has been circulated among the packers and teamsters of this requesting the names of those who are willing to enlist for service in China. The necessary outfits will be issued to them.

416 Private Pension Bills Passed.

Washington, February 24.—In a two hours session today the house passed 416 private pension bills besides a number of minor measures by unanimous consent. An effort was made to secure the passage of the bill making the records of the internal revenue bureau available for court evidence against violators of the prohibition and local option liquor laws but as the proceeding was by unanimous consent a single objection blocked the measure.

ATTACKED BY MOB

W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., in Trouble at Pontedera

HIS AUTO RAN OVER A BOY

Rescued from Angry Crowd by a Force of Gendarmes

Chauffeur of the Machine Attacked, and Mr. Vanderbilt Kicked and Cuffed—Violent Natives Urged Summary Vengeance Upon the Travelers—Mrs. Vanderbilt Shown Every Attention—Provisional Release Granted to Vanderbilt, and He Left for Pisa—Sentence Can be a Fine of \$200 and Imprisonment for Three Months.

Florence, Italy, February 24.—The incident at Pontedera yesterday, which involved the detention there of Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., and their chauffeur, turns out to have been much more serious than at first reported. The dispatches received yesterday evening from Pontedera simply announced that Mr. Vanderbilt was detained there owing to an automobile accident by which a boy was injured quite seriously. It now appears that Mr. Vanderbilt and the chauffeur were mobbed, and that both Mr. Vanderbilt and the chauffeur were arrested and taken to the police station.

Though the boy was not seriously hurt, his face was covered with blood. The automobile, which was stopped as soon as its occupants noticed that an accident had occurred, was soon surrounded by a crowd of excited people who indignantly and threateningly berated its occupants. In the midst of the excitement the report spread that the child was dead, and the townspeople became so enraged that they attacked the chauffeur. In fact matters reached a very critical stage, and Mr. Vanderbilt, believing that the lives of the party were in danger drew a revolver. Before he could use the weapon, however, several men jumped into the automobile, disarmed Mr. Vanderbilt and kicked and cuffed him.

By this time the police had become aware that something unusual was happening, and a party of gendarmes hurried to the scene to protect the automobilists. Owing to the fury of the people the officers took the Vanderbilt party into a neighboring shop for safety. There they were immediately besieged by the crowd, the most violent of the people urging their companions to take summary vengeance upon the travelers.

As a coincidence, the shop into which the Vanderbilts were taken was owned by a relative of the injured boy which did not tend to calm the feelings of the mob. Eventually an officer of gendarmes, with reinforcements, arrived on the scene and after the townspeople had somewhat calmed down, succeeded in rescuing the automobilists, who were taken to the police station followed by a crowd of shouting people.

Mr. Vanderbilt and chauffeur were detained at the police station, under arrest, and Mrs. Vanderbilt, who was shown every attention possible, was escorted to the best hotel in Pontedera. This morning doctors visited Adolfo Butini, the injured boy in order to ascertain his condition. Grave complications, it was announced, may arise.

Through the American consular authorities, Mr. Vanderbilt has secured a lawyer who has applied for his clients provisional release which is always granted in similar cases, but which can be refused when the offender is a foreigner, or when it is suspected that he may flee from justice. If the child does not die or is not permanently disabled, the punishment may be imprisonment for three months and a fine of \$200, in addition to a fine for carrying a revolver without permission. But it is believed that considering the extenuating circumstances, Mr. Vanderbilt may be sentenced to pay a fine.

The father of the injured child when asked if he wished to bring suit against Mr. Vanderbilt not only refused to do so but also declined to accept indemnity due him under the law. Therefore the judge granted Mr. Vanderbilt provisional liberty, and accompanied by Mrs. Vanderbilt, he left for Pisa. Before departing Mr. Vanderbilt gave \$40 to the local hospital.

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