

**PAYNE BILL
PASSES HOUSE**

Tariff Measure is Passed, All Republican Members Save One Voting for It.

FOUR DEMOCRATS SUPPORT IT

Proposition to Place Lumber on the Free List Voted Down.

DUTY ON BARLEY INCREASED

Committee Provision for Free Hides is Retained.

DEBATE OCCUPIED THREE WEEKS

Galleries and Floor Crowded by Interested and Excited Throng When the Vote is Taken.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—After three weeks of consideration the Payne tariff bill was passed by the house of representatives tonight by a vote of 217 to 151. One republican, Austin, (Tenn.), voted against the measure and four democrats, all from Louisiana, Broussard, Estopinal, Pula and Wickliffe, voted for it. An attempt by Champ Clark, the minority leader, to recommitt the bill with instructions signally failed.

The day was filled with excitement from the moment the session began at noon until the minute of adjournment. The vote was kept up to the highest pitch, and a practically full membership remained on duty throughout. The final vote demonstrated the capacity of the republican organization to get together. The situation with respect to lumber was greatly relieved to the republican leaders when it became manifest that the advocates of the proposition placing it on the free list were in the minority. Because of that fact, Mr. Fitzgerald, (New York), charged that a midnight deal had been made last night whereby free lumber was to be voted down and the rates on barley malt increased and the rates on wheat and rye decreased. Mr. Mann, (Ill.), and Cushman, (Wash.), who offered the barley amendments.

The general public was greatly interested in the proceedings and the galleries were packed. Both the diplomatic and executive reservations likewise were fully occupied. Mrs. Taft being among those present.

When the bill actually was passed the republicans cheered lustily, some dancing up and down the aisles and patting their fellow members on the back.

After adopting a resolution that until further orders sessions shall be held only on Mondays and Tuesdays the house at 1:30 P. M. adjourned.

General Debate Started Here.—While more consideration is being given to the Payne bill it was reported to the house that the Dingley bill was acted upon after being referred to the house. The Payne bill was introduced on March 17, reported to the ways and means committee on the following day and was under general debate for sixteen days.

On Monday of the present week the rules committee reported a special order which closed the general discussion and provided for the consideration of the bill under five-minute rules. Chairman Payne handled the bill on the floor and divided the time in such a way that only paragraphs affected by committee amendments and the amendments permitted by the special rule had been considered when the time to vote on the measure was reached.

The Dingley bill was under consideration in the house for two days longer than the Payne bill, but the house was not in session as long each day as during the consideration of the latter measure. All during the general debate on the Payne bill the house sat on and on half hours each day, thus establishing a record for that body. Mr. Olmsted, (Pa.), presided as chairman of the committee of the whole house on the state of the union throughout the twenty days that were given to the bill.

Petroleum on Free List.—One of the principal changes affected in the Payne bill since its introduction was the placing of petroleum on the free list. This involved a more seriously contested fight than any of the other amendments. Speaker Cannon during the debate to reduce the duty, took the floor in defense of the higher rate of duty. Although an amendment to place oil on the free list was lost yesterday, a similar amendment offered by Chairman Payne today was carried. Among the other important amendments that have been made since the bill came from committee were those striking out the provision which put out on tea and the countervailing duty proviso on coffee. The elimination of the maximum duty of 20 per cent on coffee, contained in the maximum and minimum section of the bill, was also significant.

To the free list were added evergreen seedlings, citrus and nut oils, which is used in making varnish. The patent law provision, intended to retaliate for the new British patent law, was stricken out in the free list. The patent law was stricken out, but a strong effort to place it on the free list did not succeed.

Several Schedules Increased.—The duties on barley, barley malt, charcoal, iron, pineapples in crates, saccharine, cotton and cotton collars and cuffs, an originally reported in the bill were increased. To retaliate against Turkey, which country prohibits the importation of American filler tobacco, a proviso was included in the tobacco schedule increasing the duty on filler tobacco from any country.

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**Former Secretary
Hitchcock Dead
at Washington**

Notable Work in Interior Department Was Investigation of Big Land Frauds.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—

—Ethan Allen Hitchcock, former secretary of the interior, died here this morning at 11 o'clock, aged 74. He had been critically ill for several days. The passing of ex-Secretary Hitchcock marked the close of a career whose prominent feature was an administration of the interior department that stirred the western land problems as never before.

Brought here from St. Petersburg, where he had served as ambassador under an appointment of President McKinley, Mr. Hitchcock was almost immediately plunged into a vortex of complications growing out of the vast frauds and charges of fraud and counter charges growing out of the acquisition of public lands in the western states. Mr. Hitchcock directed the most sweeping investigations, arousing the enmity of powerful political interests. That work is recalled today as one of the most unswerving and relentless inquisitions in the annals of government prosecutions.

He was convicted and died not long afterward; former Congressman Binger Hermann, who had served as commissioner of the general land office and who was acquitted; former United States Senator Dietrich of Nebraska, Representative Williamson of Oregon, and John A. Benson, a millionaire real estate broker of San Francisco.

Mr. Hitchcock was a target for attack on the floor of congress and in pretenses at the White House. The Hitchcock family was well known in Washington society, where it frequently entertained at smart functions.

All flags on the interior department in Washington and on all buildings throughout the country under the jurisdiction of that department will be placed at half mast for ten days out of respect to the memory of former Secretary of the Interior Hitchcock as the result of an order issued by Secretary Ballinger today.

**Explosion in
Big Oil Plant**

Two Men Killed and Three Seriously Injured by Accident at Point Richmond, Cal.

POINT RICHMOND, CAL., April 9.—Two men were burned to death and three others seriously injured, one fatally, as the result of an explosion in one of the oil stills of the Standard Oil company today.

The fire, which was scattered over eight acres of territory, was fought for over an hour by 1500 men, and the damage will reach \$50,000.

The dead: JOHN GRANGER, gate keeper, 70 years old. CHARLES LAWRENCE, chief clerk, 30 years old, of Santa Rosa.

The injured: Electrician Smith, seriously burned. —Peratt, a teamster, who probably will die. Another teamster, name unknown, is in the hospital.

**Child Hung by
His Coat Collar**

Six-Year-Old Boy is Strangled to Death While Playing in Chicken House.

ATLANTIC, Ia., April 9.—(Special.)—Catching by the neck band of his coat when he fell from a chicken roost, the six-year-old son of Henry Helken, who lives eight miles east of here, was strangled to death before he was found.

The little boy was playing about the chicken house. His coat was buttoned tightly and he caught in such a way that he was unable to breathe or extricate himself. No inquest will be held.

F. MARION CRAWFORD DEAD

Noted Novelist Passes Away at His Home at Sorrento, Italy.

SORRENTO, April 9.—F. Marion Crawford, the novelist, died here at 7:30 tonight. He was born in 1856.

**Plan Attack on the New
Nebraska Banking Law**

Sixty members of the Nebraska Bankers' association voted last evening to attack in the course the bank deposit guaranty law passed by the last legislature. At the meeting, which was held at the home, state and national banks were represented in equal proportion.

Details of the test case will be left to a special committee of five men to be named by C. F. McGrew of Omaha. Mr. McGrew is chairman of the executive committee of the Nebraska Bankers' association, and issued the call for last night's meeting, which was attended by bankers from all over the state. While the association has favored the test case to the extent of calling last night's meeting, the fight on the law will nominally not be made by the state association as such, but will be conducted by this committee, the personnel of which is as yet undetermined.

**METALS, COAL
AND LUMBER**

Senate Committee on Finance Devotes Most of the Day to These Schedules.

RAILS AND STRUCTURAL IRON

Duty on These Products Will Probably Be Placed at \$5 a Ton.

COAL FIFTY CENTS A TON

Reciprocity Clause in Payne Bill Will Go Out.

HIDE CANVASS IS COMPLETED

Senate Will Probably Insist Upon an Ad Valorem Duty of Fifteen Per Cent—Half Dingley Rates on Lumber.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—When the senate committee on finance concluded its session tonight it was with the understanding that all avenues to the committee room had been closed and that the few sessions to be held prior to the reporting of amendments to the Payne bill would not be hampered with suggestions from the outside. The committee is now prepared to insert rates on certain important matters.

Among the schedules that are attracting particular attention now are metals and manufactures of metals; lumber, hides, bituminous coal and sugar.

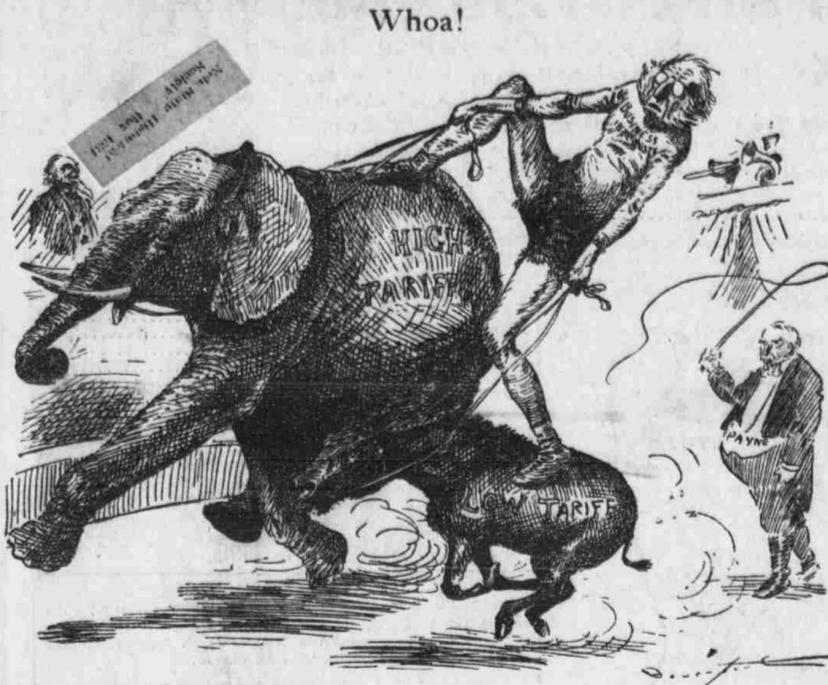
No rates on steel and iron have been inserted as yet although it is practically settled that iron ore will be taxed 20 cents a ton and proportionate rate will be assessed against scrap iron and steel refuse fit only to be remanufactured. The iron interests are concerned chiefly in getting an increase over the proposed rates in the Payne bill on rails and structural iron. The Payne bill sets the existing rate on steel rails from \$7.50 to \$12.50, but one-half. Steel men contend that the Payne rates are too severe a reduction. They have asked that a rate of \$5.58 be fixed on rails. It is generally believed that the committee will name a rate of about \$5 a ton. On structural steel it is likely that the Dingley rate of one-half a cent a pound will be maintained, instead of adopting a rate of 3-16 of a cent a pound as fixed by the Payne bill. A number of reductions have been made on other articles under the metal schedule in order to make the schedule symmetrical. These changes, it is said, have been approved by steel manufacturers.

Coal and Culp Schedules.—The reciprocity clause of the bituminous coal schedule, which, it is said, would result in the elimination of all duties on coal in the trade between Canada and the United States, is likely to go out of the bill. Senators Elkins and Dick were before the committee today in this connection, taking opposite sides. Under both the Dingley law and the Payne bill bituminous coal pays a duty of 15 cents a ton. The senate committee is considering the reduction of the duty to about 6 cents in view of the elimination of the reciprocity clause. The Payne bill places culm, or slack coal, on a par with bituminous coal, which would increase the rate, it must pay from 15 cents to 67 cents. Those who favor striking out the reciprocity clause want an ad valorem duty placed on slack coal, which would equal a specific duty of 30 or 40 cents a ton.

Senator Elkins submitted some data indicating that the present rate of 15 cents on slack is too low. He read letters from American agents in Canada and Australia asserting that mines in those countries artificially crush bituminous coal in order to make it admissible to the United States at the 15 instead of the 67-cent rate.

Hides and Lumber.—It is reported that the senate committee will reduce the existing Dingley rates on lumber one-half. A canvass of the senate indicates that an effort in the direction of getting free lumber, if made after the bill reaches the senate, would be unavailing. The canvass of the senate on the question of hides was concluded today and it is taken that as a result hides will be taken from the free list as in the Payne bill and a duty fixed at 15 per cent ad valorem. That wool of all grades and wool tops would be placed in the senate bill under the existing rates was stated today upon what appears to be excellent authority. Many protests were filed with the committee against the Payne reduction in the wool schedules.

Among the bankers present last night were the following: C. F. McGrew, Omaha; Henry W. Yates, Omaha; E. A. Willis, Pender; Luther Drake, Omaha; S. H. Burnham, Lincoln; J. W. Weston, Ogallala; C. E. Burgham, Norfolk; L. M. Talmage, Grand Island; W. H. Borcholt, Omaha; Arthur McNamara, North Platte; Frank McGivern, Fremont; W. A. George, Broken Bow; W. E. Shepard, Omaha; John W. Steinhart, Nebraska City; Fritz Nicklas, Syracuse; S. S. Hadley, Cedar Rapids; J. M. Roberts, Plattsmouth; C. J. Crosswhite, David City; Willis McBride, Elgin; C. T. Koyntz, Omaha; V. Franklin, McCook; Milton Barlow, Omaha; M. T. Atkin, Lincoln; F. E. Bottenfield, Nelson; George N. Seymour, Elgin; F. H. Davis, Omaha; George B. Bell, Grand Island; Post, York; F. H. Claridge, Blair; L. B. Howe, Beatrice; Julius Beckman, Fremont; B. F. Forder, South Omaha; A. L. Clarke, Hastings; George F. Sawyer, Western; Victor R. Caldwell, Omaha; Henry Nellis, Omaha; John D. Haskell, Wakefield; W. A. Wittigman, Norfolk; H. A. Cheney, Creighton; W. E. Roeder, Omaha; C. M. Brown, Cambridge; Samuel Patterson, Arapahoe; N. F. Teckard, South Omaha; R. C. Boyd, Auburn; J. H. Miles, Falls City; J. C. French, South Omaha; Dan Cook, Beatrice; Harris M. Childs, York; C. A. McCleod, York, and H. V. Nickelson, Valentine.



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MINERS' DEMANDS REJECTED

Anthracite Wage Conference at Philadelphia Ends in Deadlock.

REFUSE TO RECOGNIZE UNION

After Adjournment Operators Announce They Will Submit "New Work" Demands to Board of Conciliation.

PHILADELPHIA, April 9.—After conference extending since Wednesday the anthracite coal operators and the officials of the United Mine Workers of America representing the miners at which the question of a wage agreement was discussed, the operators today rejected the modified demands of the miners presented yesterday and the conference adjourned deadlocked.

There will be no strike inaugurated by the mine workers, however, and the only danger of a suspension of mining in the near future, according to the mine workers' officials, arises from the possibility of the refusal of the operators to permit the miners to work without an agreement.

The modified demands of the miners requested that the mine workers be recognized as "anthracite workers" and that conditions regarding new work by the miners in which wages were involved and which would give increased pay to the miners, be improved. Although the entire proposition of the miners as modified was rejected the operators this afternoon gave out a statement in New York, where they went immediately following the conference, in which they claim that they offered to submit the "new work" complaint to the conciliation board, created by the anthracite strike commission. When the attention of President Lewis of the United Mine Workers of America was called to the operators' statement tonight he said:

"I have no comment to make." When pressed as to his views concerning the operators' concession regarding new work, he said: "Bugs."

Following the conference the district boards of the United Mine Workers' organization from the three anthracite districts went into conference and after a session lasting nearly all the afternoon adjourned to meet again tomorrow. At the conclusion of the meeting, it is said, a statement will be given out.

The bone of contention is the refusal of the operators to recognize the United Mine Workers in any way.

**Six Are Killed
in Steamer Fire**

Reports Reach New Orleans of Partial Destruction of Hamburg-American Liner.

NEW ORLEANS, April 9.—Reports received here today tell of a disastrous fire on the Hamburg-American steamer Sarnia at Port Limon, British Honduras, April 1. Six lives were lost and a large portion of the steamer's cargo damaged.

"I'm delighted with your new woman's column on the want ad page," said one of our women readers:

"My hairdresser was sick and looking over the 'Everything for Women' column I found there was one near my husband's office on the same floor, whom I knew nothing about."

For the convenience of our women readers, many small ads are run together under this head. It makes it easy to find what you want.

Have you read the want ads, yet, today?

**Seek to Outwit
Cupid by Filing
Insanity Charge**

Parents of Iowa Teacher Try to Break Up Match—Lover Gets Habeas Corpus.

IDA GROVE, Ia., April 9.—(Special.)—Will Johan Long and Miss Hazel Cole, both in this city, eventually be wedded? Will the latter secure her release from the private hospital where her relatives have so far been able to confine her on the claim that she is mentally insane? Will Johan Long prove after all to be her "Jonah"? These are some of the questions which group themselves about the incidents of one of the most sensational and arduous love affairs which has ever developed in this part of the state.

Because she was 23 years of age and thought she had a right to choose her husband without the aid of, and in spite of the objections of relatives, Miss Long, a blonde and petit school teacher of this city, was forced, it is asserted, to leave home. She went to the home of her lover's sister. A few days later Miss Cole's mother and two sisters appeared at her stopping place, and after a deal of fighting and screaming dragged Miss Cole from her house and bore her off to a private hospital. There strict instructions were given to admit no one to see her. There Miss Cole still remains in confinement. At about the same time her lover was arrested and put under bonds on the charge of drugging a barber of this city, two weeks ago. Mr. Long's attorney has secured a writ of habeas corpus from Judge Church for Miss Cole's release. The family says she is insane and are trying to have her sent to an asylum or convent. She is reported to have been in hysterical convulsions. In the meantime practically all of the attorneys here have been retained by one side or the other. Miss Cole is the daughter of Timothy Cole. Mr. Long is a bootmaker in the employ of Samuel West.

**Carnegie Gift
Honors Root**

Steel Magnate Gives Two Hundred Thousand to School as Elihu Root Peace Fund.

ITITICA, N. Y., April 9.—President M. W. Stryker of Hamilton college announced today that Andrew Carnegie had given \$200,000 to the college, the fund to be known as the Elihu Root peace fund, in recognition of the services of Senator Root for international peace. Senator Root is a graduate of Hamilton, a member of the board of trustees and his permanent home is within the shadow of the college buildings.

ADMIRAL NEAR PORT SAID

Steamer with Theodore Roosevelt and Party on Board is Sighted.

PORT SAID, April 9.—The steamer Admiral with Theodore Roosevelt and the members of his party on board was sighted off the port at 4:40 o'clock this afternoon. Excellent weather prevailed during the three days' voyage from Messina to the Port and the trip was uneventful. Mr. Roosevelt and all the members of his party are well.

**Wealth Back of
Body of Petrosino Received
in New York With Honors**

NEW YORK, April 9.—Flags flying at half staff above the city hall and police headquarters today marked the arrival on the steamer Slavonia of the body of Lieutenant Joseph Petrosino of the New York police department, who was assassinated in Palermo, Sicily, on March 12, while engaged in a specially important task of protecting America against Sicilian criminals. Italian societies and citizens will unite in giving further expression of tribute to Petrosino on Monday, when his funeral will be held.

Plans had been made for escorting Petrosino's body to his home in LaFayette street if the Slavonia had arrived yesterday according to its schedule, but as its delay, owing to heavy weather at sea, brought it into port on Good Friday, the plans were materially changed and it was agreed that the greater ceremony should be reserved until the funeral and after Holy Week.

Many flowers, including a wreath from Mayor McChellan, have been sent to the Slavonia home and a movement is underway to provide Mrs. Petrosino and her detective's child with a permanent home and ample funds.

Unusual honors expressive of the city's appreciation of Petrosino's courage and devotion to duty will be shown during the funeral on Monday. Solemn high mass will be celebrated in St. Patrick's pro-cathedral and after the services the body will be escorted to Calvary cemetery by a parade composed of police, military and many Italian societies.

NORMAL SCHOOL LAW IS BAD

New Act Does Not Give New Board Power to Spend Money.

DEMOCRATS MAKE GREAT MUDDLE

May Be Necessary to Go into Courts to Get Authority to Conduct Schools—Wayne Normal Involved.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) LINCOLN, April 9.—(Special.)—In their zeal to make a political football out of the normal schools by the state, the members of the late democratic legislature certainly overstepped the mark to such an extent that it will be necessary to go into court to straighten out the tangle.

This piece of legislation is probably the worst constructed of any that passed. The law creates a "Normal Board of Education," abolishes the state board of education and yet leaves the handling of the funds to the state board of education to organize and yet Governor Shallenbeger has taken it upon himself to call the new board to meet next Wednesday for the purpose of affecting an organization. The bill gives to the normal board of education "control and direction of the normal education of the state, including normal schools and junior normals." This means this new board has the power over the teachers' college in the state university; the normal training in Wesleyan college and in all other schools of Nebraska wherein normal training is taught.

The new law repeals all sections only of the present school laws; sections 1 of subdivision 13 which provides that the normal schools shall be under the control of the state board of education, which shall consist of five members appointed by the governor and the state superintendent and state treasurer. The other section is 22 of the same subdivision which placed the junior normals under the direction of the state superintendent. No other sections in the law is repealed.

Old Board Abolished.—The way the law is now the State Board of Education has been abolished and yet this is the board which has to do with the funds. There is not one word in the new law giving authority to the Normal Board of Education to spend one dollar of the state money.

The new law and the old law conflict in numerous instances. While the new law gives the Normal Board of Education absolute power to control normal education in the state it does not repeal section 2 of subdivision 5, which gives authority to the state superintendent to organize normal institutions.

The new law does not repeal section 14 of subdivision 9, which gives authority to the state superintendent to issue certificates to graduates of the university and colleges which come up to a certain requirement.

The new law does not repeal sections 6, 7 and 8 of subdivision 9, which provides for the issuance of certificates and examinations by the board of trustees of colleges and normal schools and the state superintendent.

In addition to these there are about one dozen other sections which conflict with the new law and which are not repealed. When the new Normal Board of Education files a voucher with the state auditor for a warrant for the expenditure of state money then probably will come the test of the law. Under the law the auditor has no

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**RAILROADS MAY
BACK DOWN**

Officials of Eighteen Missouri Lines Will Hold Conference in St. Louis Today.

COMPROMISE IS PROPOSED

Indications that Flat 21-2 Cent Rate Will Be Adopted.

HADLEY TO APPEAL TO CONGRESS

Governor Will Ask National Aid to Prevent Discrimination.

HAGERMAN TALKS OF SUIT

Attorney for Railroads Says the Contention of State is Unsound and that Temporary Order Will Be Set Aside.

ST. LOUIS, April 9.—Executive and legal representatives of the eighteen railroads in Missouri will meet tomorrow in the office of A. J. Davidson, president of the "Frisco" system, and it is probable that a flat 21-cent passenger rate will be adopted. Prominent railroad officials today said there was some talk of continuing the conflict with the state in the matter of a passenger fare, but the general opinion tended to a compromise.

Hadley Appeals to Congress.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., April 9.—That congress will be asked to direct an investigation of the Missouri rate situation by the Interstate Commerce commission and that the circuit attorneys throughout the state should institute suits similar to that filed in St. Louis last night, asking for an injunction against the announced increase in passenger fares, were indicated by Governor Hadley today in a discussion of the latest steps taken by the state to avoid the enforcement of the new schedules.

"I feel that it is unfair for the railroads to attempt to impose upon the people of Missouri a higher rate than is charged in the contiguous and sparsely settled states of Kansas, Oklahoma, Iowa and Nebraska," said the governor. "Therefore, I have today forwarded to Sen. Hagerman, Warner and Stone and to Representatives Clark and Bartholt figures showing the disproportionately high earnings in interstate traffic in Missouri as compared with the earnings on state traffic, in order that congress may, through the Interstate Commerce commission, institute an investigation of the matter. I have also presented the matter to the state warehouse and railroad commissioner.

"Suits similar to that instituted by the circuit attorney in St. Louis should be begun by prosecuting attorneys throughout the state who are not parties to the case in the federal court.

"Cases in which these cases can rest is that a railroad corporation when it is permitted to do business in this state, make a contract with the state that it will obey the constitution and laws and if it violates this contract it can be enjoined from doing so."

Attorney General Major gave out a statement later in which he declared that the action of the circuit attorney of St. Louis would not cause him to change the plans of his office for dealing with the rate question.

"I informed Governor Hadley on March 17 that I would await action by the railroads before proceeding against them," said Mr. Major. "I informed him of my intention to proceed against the roads by bringing quo warranto proceedings in the supreme court of the state charging them with a conspiracy to fix passenger and freight rates in the state in violation of the constitution, the anti-trust law, and conspiracy in the sale of commodities and insurance. That was all to be predicted upon the assumption that the roads would put the increased rates into effect on April 10."

Hagerman Talks of Suit.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., April 9.—Frank Hagerman, leading attorney for the eighteen railroads entering Missouri, in a statement made here today declared that the state's injunction suit, filed yesterday, to prevent the railways from returning to the 3-cent fare basis, was unsound in law.

"Governor Hadley's St. Louis suit," said Mr. Hagerman today, "seems to be based upon two grounds, both of which are unsound: (1) The railroads by making the new rate have violated the anti-trust statute. (2) The issue of mileage books is a discrimination. The anti-trust statute has no application to railroads' rates, but by its terms only prohibits combinations in the sale of commodities and insurance. There is no discrimination because the mileage books are sold to all alike. Anyhow, the public, not the railroads, would be hurt by an injunction against their use, for since the 3-cent fare law was enjoined the old law is in force, and this authorizes 3 cents. Anything less is a matter of grace from the railroads."

"Mrs. Hagerman and I were starting to California when I heard of this new move, but our trip will now be deferred. The restraining order is returnable Monday morning, at which time the court will probably dissolve it, as it was imprudently granted and violates the federal court decree."

**Wealth Back of
Theater Fight**

Reported Mackays and Vanderbilts Are Back of Shubert Theater Project.

CINCINNATI, O., April 9.—Max Anderson, president of the Columbia Theater company here, said that the millions of the Mackays and the Vanderbilts and other New York millionaires were back of the Shuberts in the fight said to be opening against the Klaw & Erlanger theatrical combination.

According to Anderson, Abe Erlanger, just before he sailed for England a few weeks ago, attended a public dinner in New York and made some remark about the new, or national theater, which wealthy men were building to promote dramatic art. Erlanger's rival, Lew Shubert, has been engaged to manage this theater. When the millionaires heard of the Erlanger remark their anger was aroused, it is said.

"That speech," said Max Anderson, "was the straw which broke the camel's back."