

CAMPAIGN FOR HOME RULE FIRES UP AS SUPREME COURT NAILS IT.

No sooner was the final nail slammed into the coffin marked "Home Rule for Chicago" by the state supreme court yesterday than the waning campaign for it fired up with fresh vigor.

The court decision was a shock to every one but the public utilities com'n. It overthrew every line of dope on the street car situation. It took away from the city the right to regulate street car service, and gas, telephone and electricity contracts.

Hereafter, under the decision, the public utilities commission appointed by the governor can bargain with the utility corporations as it pleases. It may raise or lower the price of any of these commodities, knock out clauses from any agreement made between the city and the companies and decide what is best for the people of the city and there is no appeal.

Every clique, crowd and creed in the City Hall is in conference today, planning means for overthrowing the power of the state board and restoring to Chicago the right to govern its utility service.

The city council independents sounded the call to get behind the home rule bill now before the legislature. An attempt to put the approval of the new council behind the bill will be made.

Mayor Thompson announced in his message to the council next Monday night he would present his home rule proposition.

Corporation Counsel Ettelson is determined to fight the case in the United States supreme court, but none of the home rule factions intend to wait for this.

Traction experts declared today that the public utilities commission may even knock out the \$2,500,000 annual income to the city for the traction fund if it pleases. It may make the fare 6 or 4 cents, or any other amount it pleases.

But the one ray of light was that it killed the Fisher-Capitan 50-year franchise bill because the city has not the right to enter into any such agreement with the car companies.

Wm. L. O'Connell, chairman of the commission, said today that that body would not interfere with the attempt of the gas companies and the city to come to a new agreement on rates and gas standards. The commission will pass on the resulting ordinance, however, he declared.

TEACHERS ARE PUZZLED OVER SUPREME COURT STAND

School teachers of Chicago are puzzled as to their rights. On the one hand, the supreme court decision of yesterday says they are absolutely under control of the school board, which has power to hire or fire any teacher any time "for any reason whatever or for no reason at all, and it is immaterial whether the applicant is married or unmarried, is of fair complexion, is dark, is or is not a member of a trade union, or whether no reason is given." On the other hand, is the Otis-Mueller bill passed by the legislature with an overwhelming vote saying that before the school board can fire any teachers the board must bring written charges and hold a hearing at which she would have full opportunity to disprove the charges.

The question puzzling the school teachers is: Who is right on the law—the supreme court or the legislature? Which of these two authorities will be finally upheld when the matter has been litigated through all the higher courts?

Jake Loeb, school board president, was tickled with the decision and commented: "This is the happiest day of my life. The board of education shall conduct the affairs of the school system. There will be no labor unions in the public schools."

London.—Food strikes in Vester-vik, Karlstad and Kalmar, Sweden.