

CUMMINS RAILWAY BILL PASSES SENATE

Esch Bill to Be Compared With Similar Measure.

LABOR PROVISION PUZZLE

Conferences on Differences to Begin Tomorrow—Leaders Hope for Agreement Next Month.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The Cummins bill, paving the way for return of the railroads to private operation, passed the senate late today by a vote of 46 to 30, ending a prolonged discussion of the measure and making the holiday recess of congress possible. It went through without change in the anti-strike and other important provisions, and was sent to conference for adjustment during the recess with the Esch bill, passed by the house November 17. Final enactment of permanent railroad legislation is hoped for by leaders early next month.

The ultimate disposition of the railroad problem, however, still is in doubt, as the senate and house bills will be in conference and congress in recess on January 1, the date previously set by President Wilson for return of the lines to their owners.

Unless vetoed by the president, the pending legislation, according to plans of congressional leaders, would require the return of the roads by January 31. The railroad administration, however, has plans ready for their return January 1 under a presidential proclamation, should Mr. Wilson adhere to his announced programme.

Measures Differ Greatly.
The Cummins bill was supported by 22 republicans and 12 democrats and opposed by eight republicans and 22 democrats.

When the house was informed that the senate had passed the Cummins bill, Representative Esch, chairman of the interstate commerce committee, who will head the house conferees, said the labor sections of the two bills were so "radically different that it seemed absolutely certain that the conferees would later have to ask the house for instructions." This made necessary a vote of the house to bind its conferees to the plan of voluntary mediation of labor disputes proposed by the house bill.

Representative Garner, Texas, democratic whip, said he favored a test in the house on the senate labor section which includes the anti-strike provision. Both senate and house bills propose private ownership and operation of the railroads under government supervision, but differ radically in other respects than their labor provisions.

Conferees Begin Tomorrow.

The senate bill would transfer the roads at midnight of the last day of the month in which the legislation is enacted; the house bill would return them similarly if enactment should come before the 15th of the month, otherwise at the end of 30 days.

Conferees to harmonize the two bills will begin Monday.

Attack on the Cummins bill in the senate centered largely on the anti-strike clause, penalizing lockouts or strikes of employees, all efforts to eliminate or modify it being defeated. It now must run the gauntlet of conference with predictions general of a compromise which the house conferees would prefer to the plan of voluntary mediation without prohibiting strikes. Also to be harmonized are the senate provisions for labor bodies to deal with disputes over wages and working conditions.

Both the senate and the house bills, in varying degree, permit consolidation of competing systems, upon approval by federal authority. They also are alike in prescribing exclusive federal regulation of intra-state rates affecting inter-state commerce.

Rate-Making in Problem.

Among major differences are the creation of a transportation board and a new statutory rule of rate-making, to guarantee fixed dividends, both proposed only in the senate plan. The transportation board under the senate bill would determine the country's transportation policy with the interstate commerce commission being directed to grant rates sufficient to meet these demands. The house bill, while directing the interstate commerce commission to keep informed on the transportation needs, facilities and services, would greatly extend the commission's authority, and not make it subject to order from another government body.

The senate's rule of rate making, guaranteeing a per cent return to the carriers, was rejected by the house, which proposed the present rule that the interstate commerce commission shall fix "fair and reasonable" rates.

HUSBAND'S DEFENSE WINS

Man With Damaged Jaw Falls to Get \$15,000 Injury Balm.

A plea of self-defense made by C. W. Borders, who was sued in the circuit court for \$15,000 damages following an assault on Walter E. D'Neilly, satisfied a jury in the court of Circuit Judge McCourt yesterday which brought in a verdict for the defendant.

D'Neilly declared that, without provocation, Borders attacked him in the lobby of the Palace hotel, San Francisco, breaking his jaw and injuring him to such an extent that he spent four weeks in a hospital. Borders contended that D'Neilly had made improper advances to Mrs. Borders and had threatened him. The attack occurred last February.

NEGRESS SHOWS PROWESS

Viola Jones, 250 Pounds, Gives Two Officers Busy Reception.

Viola Jones, 250-pound negress, gave Officers Davis and Drennon a hard tussle when the two representatives of the emergency squad entered a house at 108 North Ninth street, according to the testimony of the officers in municipal court yesterday.

The woman gave Officer Davis a hard punch on the nose and then in rushing out of the house nearly knocked Officer Drennon off the front porch.

Lottie Slaughter, who is said to have been attracting men from a window at that address, received 90 days in jail by Municipal Judge Rosenman. The judge released Viola Jones.

QUOTA BASIS ATTACKED

Redistribution of Wasco School Funds Held Essential.

THE DALLIES, Or., Dec. 20.—(Special.)—The high school funds distributed under the regime of former County School Superintendent Clyde T. Bonney should have been apportioned according to the old law, according to an opinion handed down by Attorney-General Brown of Oregon in a letter officially directed to A. B. Gronewald, county superintendent of schools.

This opinion, if followed, will necessitate an entirely new apportionment of funds and renders warrants drawn according to Bonney's stipulations void, is the consensus of opinion here. At least one school district has refused to accept the position taken by the attorney-general and will contest the issue in court. Other school districts may adopt the same attitude. District attorney Galloway and County Judge Adkins favor bringing the issue to trial.

MORE SMALLPOX IN CITY

HEALTH OFFICER SAYS THERE ARE 300 CASES IN CITY.

Isolation Hospital Is Too Small. Homes Quarantined—Sending Outside Patients Condemned.

Christmas in 157 homes in Portland will not be visited by Santa Claus or any other person save the attending physician, the homes being quarantined for smallpox. Portland's small isolation hospital is filled to its capacity of ten patients. In the homes now isolated there are from one to three persons afflicted with the disease, according to City Health Officer Parrish, which makes more than 300 cases of the disease prevalent in the city at this time.

Spread of smallpox in Portland is due, according to City Health Officer Parrish, to the large number of cases sent to Portland from various cities in Oregon and Washington. Effort to stop the sending of smallpox cases to Portland, Dr. Parrish says, has been without avail, although many communications have been forwarded to the state health officer during recent months on the subject.

At least 75 per cent of the cases of smallpox prevalent in Portland are due to the influx of smallpox patients to Portland from outside cities, said Dr. Parrish yesterday. "During the past two days, five cases of smallpox have been sent into Portland.

"Portland should have a large isolation hospital, capable of handling at least 100 cases at one time."

Dr. Parrish announced yesterday that he would again appeal to the council on Monday for immediate relief, so that the healthy members of Portland's population might be afforded some protection. The majority of smallpox cases now reported to the health bureau are mild ones, but nevertheless, Dr. Parrish points out, at any time it is possible that severe cases may become prevalent.

CLACKAMAS WARMS UP

POLITICAL ASPIRANTS BEGIN GROOMING FOR RACE.

Incumbents in Many Offices Expect to Run for Re-election.

Sheriff's Job in Demand.

OREGON CITY, Or., Dec. 20.—(Special.)—

County politics in Clackamas are beginning to warm up and aspirants for a number of offices are bobbing up for the May primary. Present incumbents of the offices of clerk, treasurer, assessor, surveyor and coroner will be candidates for second terms, and are not likely to encounter opposition. School Superintendent Calavan probably will be a candidate to succeed himself, and rumor has it that Supervisor Brenton Vedder has his eyes on the position.

Sheriff Wilson is expected to be a candidate for a fourth term, and E. L. Johnson, H. E. Meads, A. J. Bell and a number of others are regarded as possibilities for the republican nomination, while rumor has it that ex-County Commissioner Calavan probably will be a candidate for the office again through the democratic primary.

Interest generally, however, centers in the election of members of the legislature and of the county board. The death of W. A. Dimick has created a vacancy in the state senate, and C. Schuebel, a member of the lower house, is an avowed candidate. Grant B. Dimick, a cousin of the late senator, has been mentioned as a possible candidate, as is George C. Brownell. For the lower house there is a possibility of a new lineup, with Schuebel in the senatorial race, and Representative Cross aspiring to a place in the county court. Representative Dedman has served two terms, but may be a candidate for a third. John R. Cole of Molalla; W. H. Bair of Canby; E. W. Bartlett of Astacoda and several others have been proposed by friends as prospective candidates.

FALL IS AIMED AT RICH

Japanese Patriot Hurls Self From Balcony Toward Millionaires.

TOKIO, Japan, Dec. 20.—

As a public protest against the luxuries of the newly rich, a young Japanese patriot threw himself yesterday from the top balcony of the imperial theater in the direction of a group of millionaires who were seated in the orchestra.

The young man was seriously injured by the fall; the millionaires were unharmed.

A. L. Miner Is Dead.

A. L. Miner, a resident of St. Johns since 1886, died of paralysis at his home there yesterday. He is survived by his widow, three children and seven grandchildren. Mr. Miner was born in Clinton county, New York, in 1837. Early in life he went to Minneapolis, Minn., where he was connected with the Pray Manufacturing company for 20 years. He came west in 1886 and purchased a tract of land at St. Johns and had since made his home there.

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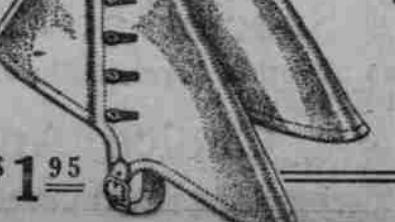
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