

RATE CASE CUBED

Interstate Board Hears 5000 Pages of Argument.

RAILROADS MAKE PLEAS

AT Say They Must Have Advance in Rates—Shippers Say Earnings Now Pass Record—Decision to Be Reached by March 1.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—Arguments for the proposed advance in freight rates in Western Trunk Line Association territory were ended today after 19½ hours of speaking in four days.

The Commission expects to announce its decision in the Eastern and Western cases by March 1. It is scarcely likely that discussion of the cases will be taken up by the Commission as a body before the early part of February.

In the final hours of today's proceedings C. C. Wright, of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, in a philosophical discussion of the rate situation, said the question was not so much one of law as one of statesmanship.

Rate What Traffic Will Bear.

"It seems beyond cavil that if we are making inadequate earnings on a system that is conceded to be brilliantly managed, then our rates are too low. A rate of what the traffic reasonably will bear is what the country needs and what the roads ought to have."

Mr. Norton held up to the Commission the specter of Government ownership and declared that a decision against the proposed advance in rates would be a disaster to the United States.

William E. Ellis, of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, said that the chief trouble of the roads was in the labor and fuel accounts.

"Neither the cost of labor and fuel must be reduced," he declared, "nor the revenues must be toned up. That is all there is to the question."

Clifford Thorne, counsel for the Meat Producers' Association, said that in the last ten years the average market price of commodities, at wholesale, had increased about 11 per cent, while the average market price of 49 transportation commodities increased 76 per cent, which he held to be a remarkable demonstration that the railroad business had been profitable.

Railroad Earnings Greater.

"I have compiled the figures representing the net earnings of American railroads during the last 29 years," Mr. Thorne said, "and after subtracting all operating expenses and all taxes, I find that the net earnings of American railroads have not only increased in gross, but they have increased for every mile hauled one mile and for every mile of railroad."

As a result of his investigations, Mr. Thorne made three assertions: "First—The credit of railway companies is as good, or better, than that of any other class of public service or industrial companies in the United States."

"Second—Railway securities are more attractive to actual investors and have increased in value more rapidly the last decade than any other class of securities."

"Third—The earnings of our railroads above all operating expenses and all taxes, have been increasing steadily within the last 20 years, and last year was the most prosperous year in the history of the American railroads."

"In this case if you deny the right to a general advance, you knave and knave know that the prosperity of these companies is bound to keep on increasing."

WOODLAND TO ADVERTISE

Commercial Club Plans to Start Campaign of Publicity.

WOODLAND, Wash., Jan. 19.—(Special.)—The Woodland Commercial Club has recently organized. The officers of the club are Dr. R. M. Andrus, president, and C. C. Clifford, secretary. Other officers and a publicity man will be named.

At a rousing meeting held in Bogert's Hall yesterday 25 prominent farmers and business men of Clark County, lying across the Lewis River, met with the club. It is proposed to erect a bridge across the Lewis River at this point. Several hundred dollars have been raised for this purpose.

CANNERY IS DISCUSSED

Cook Bay Fruitgrowers Consider Plant to Utilize Waste.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Jan. 19.—(Special.)—The fruitgrowers of the Cook Bay Fruitgrowers Association, who are holding their annual meeting in this city and the establishment of a fruit and vegetable cannery was discussed. The representative of a firm which makes a business of establishing canneries said that a cannery could be built here with a capital of \$10,000 and that much of the unmarketable fruits now wasted could be used.

A movement for a cannery has been started at Myrtle Point and stock subscriptions are now being taken. The county fruit inspector, P. M. Hall-Lewis, has induced the County Commissioners to buy a fruit tree sprayer, to be operated by a gasoline engine. It will be owned by the county and will be at the service of any fruitgrower who will pay for its operation.

LABOR MEETS

Federation Delegates Confer With Legislators.

LIABILITY ACT UPHELD

Joint Session at Salem Held for Purpose of Discussing Various Phases of the Labor Question—Solons Address Union Assembly.

MEDFORD CLUB ACCUSES INTERVENTION IN RATE CASE MISUNDERSTOOD.

Objection Is Only to Omission of Less Than Carlots From Petition, Says Portland Attorney.

MEDFORD, Or., Jan. 19.—(Special.)—Accusing the Portland Chamber of Commerce of attempting to thwart the efforts of the Medford body to secure lower freight rates, the Medford Commercial Club at a meeting last night passed resolutions denouncing the action of the Portland body in its attempt to have the State Railroad Commission prevented from granting the petition of the Medford Traffic Bureau.

Declaring that the present high price of commodities is due to freight rates, and that these constitute a severe menace to the development of Southern Oregon, the club accuses the Portland organization of actions tending to hinder the progress of that portion of the state.

As explained by J. N. Teal, attorney for the transportation committee of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, the Portland Chamber of Commerce, Commercial Club is the same as brought by the Baker Commercial Club. In both cases Mr. Teal intervened.

"It was not to prevent lower rates," said Mr. Teal, "I have repeatedly made the statement to Medford and Baker people. We are not opposed to their securing lower rates. They understand that clearly. What we are opposed to is that they omit in their application less than carload lots. If they put that in their petition, the Portland body will be dismissed. The reason we have intervened is that the petition asks for a 35 per cent reduction on carload lots, while the average market price of 49 transportation commodities increased 76 per cent, which he held to be a remarkable demonstration that the railroad business had been profitable."

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HEILIG THEATER

"The Chocolate Soldier"

BAKER THEATER

"THE GIRL OF THE GOLDEN WEST"

Bungalow Theater

"THE QUEEN OF MOULIN ROUGE"

GRAND—Week of Jan. 16

OLIO TRIO

PANTAGES

LYRIC

"A Married Widow"

FUNERAL NOTICES

BEQUETTE—At residence of daughter, 801 E. 5th st., Sarah A. Bequette, aged 75 years, died at 10:30 a. m. today (Friday), January 19, at 9 a. m.; thence to St. Francis church, where services will be held at 9:30 a. m. Friends and acquaintances respectfully invited to attend. Interment home of St. Francis.

SIBSON—In this city, Jan. 18, Matthew H. Sibson, native of England, aged 58 years, died at 10:30 a. m. today (Friday), January 19, at 9 a. m.; thence to St. Francis church, where services will be held at 9:30 a. m. Friends and acquaintances respectfully invited to attend. Interment home of St. Francis.

WENNERBERG—The funeral services of the late Roy Wennerberg will be held at 10:30 a. m. today (Friday), Jan. 19, at 9 a. m.; thence to St. Francis church, where services will be held at 9:30 a. m. Friends and acquaintances respectfully invited to attend. Interment home of St. Francis.

TONSINI FLORAL CO.

EDWARD BOLMAN CO., Funeral Directors, 7th and E. Phone Main 450. Lady assistant, Office of County Coroner.

TACOMA, Jan. 19.—Recalls were started today for the petition of Mayor Fawcett. It is said many signatures were readily obtained. His position in urging the petition was held together with his action in other municipal matters, are given as the cause.

CLASSIFIED AD. RATES

OREGON HUMANE SOCIETY

NEW TODAY.

Business Property

LADY'S ADDITION

14th Street

400% Profit

NEW TODAY.

Auction Sale

Woolen Mill

Real Estate

Apartment Site

Five Story Warehouse For Rent

PIEDMONT

REAL ESTATE DEALERS

Our Land Pays for Itself

Richest Lands in Oregon

IN 5 and 10-ACRE TRACTS

FIRLANDS TRUST CO.

BRICK APARTMENT HOUSE

16 Per Cent Net

West Side \$28,000

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REAL ESTATE

ACRE TRACT BARGAINS

\$100 PROFIT

To be made on 5-acre tract on West Side, within 3 miles of Courthouse, \$3200 cash. All other property surrounding sells for \$850 per acre.

KEASEY HUMASON & JEFFERY

Five Story Warehouse For Rent

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