

TELEPHONE INQUIRY PUT IN NEW HANDS

Commerce Board Will Take Charge

WICKERSHAM MAKES SHIFT

Official Says Need of Regulation May Be Found.

BELL SYSTEM IS IMMENSE

Attorney-General Declares That on Books It Has Invested Capital Stock Valued at Almost Six Hundred Million.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Regulation by the Interstate Commerce Commission of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, and not the compulsory competitive provisions of the Sherman anti-trust law, will be the means of solving in large measure the so-called "telephone trust" problem, according to Attorney-General Wickersham, who announced today that he had referred the whole question to the commission for investigation and action.

This move terminates the investigation by the Department of Justice of the alleged \$500,000,000 telephone trust against which independent telephone companies have made charges of unfair treatment, and of the employment of methods destructive of competition.

Inquiry to Be Thorough.

The commission's investigation will be far-reaching in effect, and out of it is expected to grow the outline of a governmental policy with respect to the telephone and telegraph. It must be determined, according to officials, whether, in the interest and convenience of the public, a telephone or telegraph monopoly under rigid regulation, should be tolerated by the Federal Government, or whether the Government should take over utilities, or finally whether competition should be enforced under the Sherman anti-trust law and monopoly prohibited.

Chairman Lane, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, formally announced tonight that "in response to information submitted to it today by the Attorney-General," the Interstate Commerce Commission would make an investigation into the operations, rates and practices of the various telephone companies.

Complaints Are Discussed.

Pointing to the complaints which have been lodged with the Government against the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, generally known as the Bell telephone system, the Attorney-General says in his communication to the commission:

"Many of these questions, it seems to me, cannot be dealt with appropriately by the law department of the Government, but should be made the subject of regulation after a careful investigation of the whole subject by your honorable body.

"State regulation cannot be a satisfactory method of ultimate solution of the questions arising out of telephone operation. The value of a telephone service depends largely upon the facility of connecting every individual telephone user with any point upon any telephone line in the United States, but this should be attained under conditions which secure to the public the maximum of convenience upon the most reasonable terms consistent with a fair return upon the investment and under suitable supervision and control by your honorable body."

Power Sufficient Is Believed.

Mr. Wickersham holds that the commission has ample power of investigation on its own initiative and he points to the section of the law specifically authorizing the commission to fix just and reasonable rates and to prohibit unjust and discriminatory practices by telephone and telegraph companies.

Continuing, the Attorney-General says:

"No comprehensive investigation into the organization, management and conduct of telephone companies, so far as I am aware, ever has been had by Governmental agency. The investigation of this department has dealt only with certain suggested violations of the Sherman anti-trust act, but the whole problem of the relation of Government to the transmission of intelligence by telephone and telegraph is one of such far-reaching importance and so affects the welfare of the entire community, that it appears to me to be a subject which should be thoroughly studied from the standpoint of the public, in order that a governmental policy with respect to the telephone and telegraph business intelligently may be formulated and adopted."

Business Is Large.

Calling the commission's attention to the immensity of the subject, Mr. Wickersham said:

"There are said to be some 20,000 independent telephone companies, representing investments aggregating many millions of dollars which together operate somewhat more than 4,000,000 telephones. No one of these companies represents capital or business comparable in size with that of

INAUGURAL BALL NOT TO BE HELD

RECEPTION IS SUBSTITUTE FOR TIME-HONORED FUNCTION.

Committee Complies With Wishes of Woodrow Wilson, Who Wants Ceremony Abolished.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—The time-honored inaugural ball, the climax of the ceremonies incident to the inauguration of Presidents of the United States, will not be given this year. In compliance with President-elect Wilson's wishes, the inaugural committee, at a special meeting today, unanimously decided to eliminate it.

The committee also decided that a public reception at the Capitol or elsewhere, suggested by Governor Wilson as a substitute for the ball, was not within its jurisdiction, and, if one is held, Congress must appropriate money and make the necessary arrangements for it. The committee took the position that the proposed reception would be a governmental function, under the control of the joint Congressional-inaugural committee.

The members of the joint Congressional committee on the inauguration are Senators Crane of Massachusetts, Bacon of Georgia, and Overman of North Carolina, and Representatives McKinley of Illinois, Tucker of Missouri, and Garrett of Tennessee. Senator Crane declined today to express an opinion regarding the proposed reception, saying that the matter had not been placed officially before the committee.

Governor Wilson's wish, in the event of there being a public reception on March 4, is that Mrs. Wilson and the Misses Wilson should not be expected to attend. This information was conveyed today to the inaugural committee.

NEW LOCOMOTIVES COMING

Order for 189 Engines Placed, of Which 40 for O-W. R. & N.

Nearly two-score new locomotives will be received by the O-W. R. & N. Company for distribution over the system before June 1, in accordance with a general order for 189 engines recently placed by the Harriman officials.

This is one of the heaviest orders of the kind ever placed by the Harriman lines and calls for an expenditure of approximately \$3,500,000. The order includes 23 of the latest type passenger locomotives, 55 Mikado freight engines and five of the high-power Mallet consolidation type, designed for heavy freight service. Most of them will be oil burners.

These orders were placed with the builders before the recent Union Pacific-Southern Pacific "emerging" decision was rendered by the Supreme Court and includes motive power for the Southern Pacific as well as for the Harriman lines proper.

The passenger engines will be placed in service on the main lines, while the freight engines will be "broken in" at the beginning of next season's fruit and grain harvest.

LUMBER TENDERS HIGHER

Portland Firm Makes Low Bid of \$14.23 in Government Contract.

SEATTLE, Wash., Jan. 20.—(Special.)—Only three firms submitted bids today to the Quartermaster's department of the United States Army, to furnish 3,000,000 feet of lumber to be sent to the Philippines. The figures were from \$2 to \$4 higher than those submitted a year ago.

The bidders were the Tacoma Mill Company at \$16.50 for each 1000 feet; the Douglas Fir Sales Company, of Portland, lowest bidder, at \$14.23, and the Balfour-Guthrie Trust Company, of Portland, at \$14.25.

The specific contract calls for 3,217,737 feet rough merchantable lumber, the total amount of selling, to be delivered at Seattle, Tacoma or Portland in March or April. The bids opened today will be forwarded to Washington and awards will be made by telegraph.

Several of the leading manufacturers of Puget Sound, Grays Harbor and Portland, who heretofore have submitted bids, made no effort to secure the contract.

BLEASE, UNBIDDEN, PEEVED

South Carolina Governor Says State Troops Shall Not Attend Inaugural.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Jan. 20.—After all arrangements had been made for a battalion of South Carolina troops to attend the inauguration of President-elect Wilson, Governor Blease issued a statement today saying he would not permit them to leave the state.

He assigned several reasons, one of them that he as commander-in-chief, had not received an invitation and that he would not let troops go unless an invitation was extended.

As no formal invitations have been given, it is not likely that the South Carolina troops will participate in the ceremonies. The militiamen had paid in advance for quarters they had intended to occupy in Washington.

OLDEST ELK IN WORLD DIES

Joseph Tuffree Succumbs Within Month of 103d Birthday.

MARSHALLTOWN, Ia., Jan. 20.—Joseph Tuffree, who would have been 103 years old in less than a month, died in his home here today.

Tuffree is said to have been the oldest member of the order of Elks in the world, having joined the organization on his 100th birthday anniversary.

FIGHT PREDICTED ON AMENDMENT

Senators Bean, Calkins, Day in Limelight

WOMEN TO VOTE ON HOME RULE

At Least Lane County Solons Would Appeal 1910 Law.

VOTER'S ELIGIBILITY HIT

Multnomah Lawmaker Would Make Full Naturalization Necessary to Casting Ballot in Oregon—Assembly May See War.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 20.—(Special.)—Two proposed constitutional amendments, one introduced in the shape of a resolution today and the other coming tomorrow, also in the shape of a resolution, both for reference to the people, promise to be of far-reaching importance and one, at least, probably will develop a heavy fight in the Legislature and surely prior to the general election, if adopted by the Legislative Assembly.

One of these is a resolution to be introduced tomorrow by Senators Bean and Calkins, of Lane, to repeal the home rule amendment, passed by the people in 1910.

The other is a resolution introduced today by Senator Day, of Multnomah County, changing the constitution provision as to the eligibility of voters. Day's resolution proposes that no one shall be qualified to vote unless he or she is a citizen of the United States, the gist of the amendment being to deprive the right of suffrage to those aliens who have received only their first papers.

Full Naturalization Necessary.

The amendment eliminates the constitutional provision which allows anyone "who has declared his intention of becoming a citizen of the United States" to vote. Under the proposed amendment only those who have their full naturalization papers may vote.

The proposed repeal of the home rule amendment emanated from Bean and Calkins, but probably will receive the approval of the Governor, at least those Senators are desirous of securing the approval of the executive.

The amendment called the home rule amendment was adopted in 1910 after a bitter struggle before the general election. It extends to incorporated cities and towns the right to control

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OREGON'S VOTE ON RACE WITH TIME

RELAY TEAMS START ELECTION RETURNS TO WASHINGTON.

Presidential Ballot Due in National Capital by January 27 or Earlier Faces Fine of \$1000.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Jan. 20.—(Special.)—Racing against time with the returns of the Presidential election of Oregon which he must deliver in Washington by January 27 or be subject to a fine of \$1000, Hugh McLain left here at midnight Monday.

Mr. McLain when at Salem last week understood that he had until February 12 to deliver the returns in Washington, but today he discovered that the United States laws required him to deliver the votes there not later than the last Monday in January. Immediately upon finding out that he had been misinformed, Mr. McLain made arrangements to start on his journey and left at midnight on the race after having made arrangements for relays of teams to carry him out to the railroad, where he will embark for the East.

With the present state of the roads the chances are against him making the trip on time, as it is a long and hard run to the railroad and with blizzards and snowdrifts to hold up the trains Mr. McLain realizes that he has a hard and exceedingly doubtful trip ahead.

MISS WILSON PICKS SILK

Virginia Product for Inaugural Gown Is Compliment to Parent.

NORFOLK, Va., Jan. 20.—(Special.)—When President-elect Wilson is inaugurated his daughter, Miss Eleanor, will wear a dress made from silk manufactured in Norfolk. This announcement was made today after the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Andrews Silk Company, of this city.

J. P. Andre Mottu, secretary of the company, said that Miss Wilson was offered the silk dress in November when her father was elected President of the United States, and she was asked to designate the shade desired. She chose the outside petal of an American Beauty rose and the dress is now being made in New York. It will cost \$650 and will be delivered early in February. The dress will be placed on exhibition in a department store in this city before it is sent to Miss Wilson.

The company has decided to name the shade of silk "Melrose" in honor of Miss Wilson, who is said to have accepted the dress from the local concern because she wanted to pay a compliment to her father's native state.

ACTRESS' SUIT IS SETTLED

Bank Clerk Who Wrote of Motoring With Edith Tallaferro Retracts.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—(Special.)—A suit for \$100,000 for libel brought by Edith Tallaferro, the actress, against Dean Larabee Weaver, a clerk in the banking house of Spencer Trask & Co., son of a Presbyterian clergyman, was settled out of court today.

STATE-WIDE TRIP IS OLYMPIA PLAN

Washington House Junket Approved.

SENATE MAY THROTTLE MOVE

Cost of Week's Journey Would Total \$8500—Party 'Dry.'

OPPOSITION IS STRONG

"Reckless Expenditure Which People Would Never Excuse"—Chance of Getting Marooned by Snow? Heard Against Scheme.

OREGON AND WASHINGTON LEGISLATORS ASK CONGRESS TO AID CELLO CANAL.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 20.—(Special.)—Memorializing Congress that \$1,400,000 become immediately available for the completion of the Cello Canal and the opening to free navigation of the Columbia and Snake rivers that they might be open during the year 1913, Senator Joseph introduced a joint memorial in the Senate today. Similar action was taken today also in the Washington Legislature.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Jan. 20.—(Special.)

The House of Representatives today adopted a resolution providing for a state-wide junket of the entire Washington Legislature to inspect all state institutions which are asking for state money. The resolution provides for a week's trip by special train beginning next Friday.

From Olympia the plan is to proceed via the Northern Pacific directly to Vancouver, Wash., where, in addition to inspecting the institution for the deaf and blind, the legislators will inspect the proposed interstate bridge project to ascertain its need and practicability. From Vancouver the plan is to route the train through to Spokane. The action of the House on the resolution came as a surprise, inasmuch as the proposition was not taken seriously by many members and persons who have been keeping tab on the doings of the session. The vote was 34 to 41 in favor of the resolution.

It is predicted that the Senate will throttle the resolution tomorrow. While the vote has not been checked up it is declared that there is little chance of it being adopted unless there is a change of sentiment. The action of the

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LAW CHAIR AT YALE ACCEPTED BY TAFT

PRESIDENT WILL WITHDRAW FROM CORPORATION.

Executive Will Return to New Haven Early in April and Take Up Professorship Duties.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Jan. 20.—At the regular meeting of the Yale Corporation President Taft formally accepted today the appointment as Kent professor of law at Yale. The President announced his intention of withdrawing from the corporation when he takes up the regular duties of his professorship.

He plans to come to New Haven early in April. He also will give some instruction in the law school, but his exact courses there have not been determined.

The Kent professorship was established in 1891, being named in honor of Chancellor James Kent, of the class of 181. There have been four covenants of the chair—Chief Justice David D. Daggett, of Connecticut; Clark Bissell and Henry Dutton, both Governors of Connecticut; and Edward J. Phelps, once American Minister to England.

The Rev. Joseph H. Twichell, of Hartford, of the class of 1852, senior fellow of the Yale Corporation, announced his resignation at the meeting today, after 38 years of service.

Treasurer Day announced that gifts amounting to more than \$70,000 had been made to the university since the November meeting.

Immediately after the corporation meeting President Taft left for Washington.

BIRDWOMAN, BLIND, FLIES

Despite Injury to Eyes in Air Miss Benetta A. Miller Lands Safely.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—(Special.)—Though blinded by an oil cup explosion while in the clouds over Hempstead Plains today, Miss Benetta A. Miller retained her nerve, guided her aeroplane to the ground, 1800 feet below, and alighted without injuring herself or the machine.

Miss Miller, who will guide an aeroplane in the inauguration parade, was trying for an altitude record. Suddenly a cup which held oil for the cylinders of the motor exploded and oil and glass flew into Miss Miller's eyes, blinding her. For a few seconds she lost control of the aeroplane and it worked as if about to drop plummet-like to earth. Miss Miller tried to wipe the oil from her eyes with her gloves, but only further obstructed her sight.

Realizing that unless she got instant control of the machine she would be killed, Miss Miller volplaned, although having no idea in which direction she was going.

Soon she heard a shout from the spectators. After maneuvering slowly and aided by shouts from persons on the field, she managed to land safely.

PRISONERS SLEEP BY TURN

City Jail, Over-Taxed, Has More Men Than Banks at Present.

Prisoners at the City Jail will have to take turns sleeping, until further notice. Only by this expedient, says Chief of Police Siover, can the average number of men now held at the jail be taken care of. Beginning last night, a night shift of janitors was organized, and spent the hours of darkness in cleaning up the various apartments of the police building. Today, while the sleepers of last night are at the same work, they will take their turns at the banks.

Confronted by the fact that he had eight more prisoners than there were banks, Chief Siover hit upon this as the only solution of the difficulty. On inquiry he learned that the accommodations were fully taxed at the County Jail, at Kelley Butte and at the Linnton rockpile.

The rule will go in force also at Linton, as conditions may require, and a night crew will do such work as can be done, and will get their sleep in the daytime.

LOG TEEPE IS STATE PLAN

Washington May Spend \$130,000 on Exhibit at Big Fair.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Jan. 20.—(Special.)—A teepee 150 feet high, 50 feet in diameter at the base and 16 feet at the top, built of logs, will be the exhibit of Washington at the Panama-Pacific Exposition if a plan of Senator Bethel, of Lincoln County, is adopted. The idea is outlined in a bill which will be introduced in the Senate here tomorrow.

Mr. Bethel proposes to secure an appropriation of \$130,000 for the structure, which he declares will be the most unique and wonderful ever erected. He plans to have the logs from which it is made all from the forests of this state. Inside the teepee will be a number of floors with elevator service. An observatory will be fitted at the top.

WOMAN LEGISLATOR DIES

Stress of Campaign Causes Nervous Prostration and Fatal Illness.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Jan. 20.—Mrs. Edyth Ellerbeck Read, member of the lower house of the Utah Legislature, died today from nervous prostration. She was elected on the Republican ticket at the last election and her condition became critical following an exciting campaign.

Mrs. Read graduated from Leland Stanford, Jr. University.

SCIENTIST UPSETS IDEA OF UNIVERSE

Creation Larger Than Supposed, He Says.

NORTH STAR THEORY DENIED

Sun, Still Young, Shifts Northward, Is His Declaration.

NEW SYSTEMS EXPLORED

Pole Star Found by Director at Lick's Observatory to Be Three Suns—Others Are Said to Be Double and Triple Bodies.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 20.—(Special.)—That the universe in which humanity dwells is half again as large in scale as the world has supposed; that the sun is still youthful, and keeps traveling northerly at the comparatively leisurely pace of 20 miles a second, or only two-thirds the average speed of stars of its own class; that the north star is not really a single star, but consists of three suns revolving about a common center—are some of the latest scientific discoveries announced by Director W. W. Campbell, of Lick Observatory, of the University of California.

The announcement of the discovery, made yesterday by the state university, is regarded as an important addition to the world's scientific knowledge.

Speed of Stars Increases.

What is considered one of the greatest contributions to cosmology the Lick Observatory has made is Director Campbell's proof, by spectrographic observations, that stars in the earlier stages of their existence are traveling slowly through space and that their speed increases with their development. This had not been suspected and is considered highly important in interpreting the life of the universe.

Only 15,000 nebulae have been observed, but the astronomers at Lick Observatory have proved that several hundred thousand nebulae visible to the telescope or the camera, await discovery when opportunity can be found to undertake the work. Most nebulae have a spiral form. This discovery was unexpected and is taken as positive proof of their rotation.

Double and Triple Stars Found.

Observations made at Lick Observatory have proved that vast numbers of stars which even to the most powerful telescope look like one, are either double, triple or quadruple. Work with the spectroscopic showed that at least one star in every four is double. The first magnitude star, Capella, for instance, consists of two stars nearly equal in brightness, which revolve around their common center every 104 days.

When Dr. Campbell first went to Lick Observatory comparatively few double stars were known. He turned the great 36-inch telescope, then the largest in the world, upon this problem and in the years since Lick observers have discovered over 4000 stars.

Discoveries at Lick Observatory have made the graduate astronomical department of the University of California famous throughout the country. Three extra moons were found for Jupiter by the local astronomers, the planet's sixth, seventh and eighth satellites having been discovered in 1892, 1894 and 1895.

Ideas of Universal Change.

Among other discoveries of the university astronomers are more than 20 comets. It has also been shown that the principal "new stars" which now and then blaze in the heavens, only to fade away, have been converted in nebulae and the nebulae since passed later, in the course of many years, to the ordinary stellar conditions.

The newly-achieved knowledge of the Lick Observatory as to how heavenly bodies are born and live and die will do much toward causing students of astronomy to change many of their ideas of the universe. Nowhere in the world is more being done to expand man's knowledge of the stellar universe than at the Lick Observatory of the University of California on Mount Hamilton.

CASTRO APPEALS FINDING

Exclusion Held to Be for Crimes Abroad Without Conviction.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—Secretary Nagel, of the Department of Commerce and Labor, will be asked to reverse the action of the board of special inquiry excluding Cipriano Castro from the United States on the ground that the board exceeded its power. The brief sent to Washington today in Castro's appeal asserts that the immigration authorities practically tried the ex-President of Venezuela for alleged crimes committed in foreign countries, of which he had not been convicted and which he denied.

The brief finds fault particularly with questions asked Castro regarding the management of the internal affairs of Venezuela and asks what would have occurred if ex-President Roosevelt had been interrogated thus in Europe.

