

SPENDING BY ROADS GIVEN AS SOLUTION

"Expert Says Unless Railways Earn More They Will Not Do New Work."

PROMPT RULINGS ADVISED

Railway Gazette Editor Says Interstate Commerce Commission Should Have More Power and Give Quick Decisions.

How to get the railroads to spend more money.

That is the major problem of public engineers confronting the carriers today, in the opinion of Samuel O. Dunn, the faithful editor of the Railway-Age Gazette and accepted authority on transportation topics, who was in Portland, with Mrs. Dunn, yesterday.

"The situation so far as new construction work is concerned," he declared, "is unacceptably dead. I think that when the companies are compelled it will be shown that 1915 has broken all records for the small volume of new construction work."

"And the reasons are quite apparent. The records show that the roads are not earning enough money. Something must be done to permit them to earn more."

One remedy which Mr. Dunn suggests is an amendment to the Interstate Commerce rules reducing the length of time for which proposed increases of rates can be suspended.

Overregulation Decried

Another point at which he would attack existing conditions is the "multiplicity of regulation," as he calls it.

No, Mr. Dunn is not opposed to regulation. Far from it, he believes, by abolishing 45 of the 48 rate-making and regulatory bodies now existing, and leaving only one body to handle all the business.

"There is no need of three Commissions here in Oregon, Washington and Idaho," he said. "The problems affecting these three states are the same, and one body should be able to handle all of them."

In the absence of an increase in rates, there is nothing left for the carriers to do but to take their increased expenses out of their net earnings or reduce costs.

"As a result the roads are operating at a lower cost than ever before in their history. They have aimed to increase their efficiency while reducing their expenses."

"Yet despite all these economies the net return on railroad investments has fallen from 5.33 per cent to less than 4 per cent."

WIGGINS STORY IS PLAY

DRAMA LEAGUE IS TO ENTERTAIN CHILDREN DECEMBER 28.

"The Birds' Christmas Carol" is to be Presented at Little Theater and Cast is Now Rehearsing.

Carol Bird, the Mother Bird, the Father Bird, the Ruggleses and all the delightful characters of Kate Douglas Wiggin's popular story, "The Birds' Christmas Carol," will make their appearance on the stage of the Little Theater on December 28 and will return again on January 1, 8 and 15.

The Little Theater was gladdened by the Drama League as a house of entertainment especially for children. Miss Frank Twissie is coaching the actors who will participate in the coming play and a finished performance is promised.

Miss Winifred Crowther is to appear as Carol Bird and Miss Ruth Creed will be Mrs. Bird's father, in the next, but not quite of it, will be Robert Conroy; Harry Jamieson will be Uncle Jack, the bird of passage, and Carol's nurse, and Miss Marie Williams will be Miss Maria Williams.

The Ruggleses, neighbors of the Birds, will all be there in the persons of Miss Frances Gill, Miss Elizabeth Goodard, Howard McLean, Miss Helen Hawkins, Norman Goudy and Francis Gilbert, who will present Sarah, Maud, Peter, Peoria, Kitty, Clement, Corsetta and Larry.

SHOT FIRED IN NIGHTMARE

F. Milne is Supposed to Have Inflicted Own Wound.

A good argument against sleeping with a revolver under the pillow is offered in the narrow escape from death yesterday morning of F. Milne, a carpenter living at 248 Jefferson street, who shot himself supposedly while asleep and under the influence of a nightmare. He was taken to St. Vincent's hospital, where it was found he had inflicted only a scalp wound.

According to Patrolman Ervin, who investigated the case, Milne had a small altercation with his wife the night before, but had adjusted matters and retired on perfectly good terms with his spouse. The memory acting upon Milne's subconscious mind, is believed to have suggested suicide with the 32-caliber revolver, kept for burglar protection.

VEGA DEL REY.

A very mild Havana cigar, a sweet and satisfying smoke for the particular man, tired of "stale" cigars. An acceptable Xmas gift. All sizes in special holiday packing. Sig Sichel & Co., 33 34 st—Adv.

MOVING PICTURE NEWS.



Lillian Gish and Rozsika Dolly, in 'The Lily and the Rose' at Columbia Today.

ers and Gwen, who were to marry as a reward for the aid of the man regarding Marion's theft of the tiara. The tiara is returned to the pawnbroker and Dorian and Gwen, are, of course, married.

Arbuckle at Peoples.

Maclyn Arbuckle, who appeared in Portland several months ago as one of the principals in an all-star cast, will make a screen appearance today at the Peoples Theater, starting with Myrtle Stedman in "The Reform Candidate."

The feature is a vivid interpretation of present-day politics in some quarters, which gives them a Christmas party at her home in Riverside Drive. The little ones will be the children of parents now identified with the stage or screen in minor capacities. Miss Minter is but 15 years old, but she began her stage career when she was 5 years old.

Miss Minter is now working on a five-part feature at the Columbia Metro studio called "Rose of the Alley," under the direction of Charles Moran.

When Miss Minter finishes "Rose of the Alley" she will be starred in Dickens' "Old Curiosity Shop," in which she plays both Little Nell and The Marchioness.

One hundred and fifty horses are working "extra" at Inceville in the new William S. Hart Triangle play. This large, temporary addition to the livestock at the big plant was made necessary by a number of scenes in the C. Gardner Sullivan scenario calling for a thrilling chase over the mountains, which more than 500 riders participate. Inceville's "regular" horses number less than 60.

In producing a one-part comedy for the Vitagraph Company, Sidney Drew, assisted by his talented wife, filmed the entire picture, exteriors and interiors, at his own residence at Sea Gate, New York Harbor. This, undoubtedly, is the first time a picture has been made in which the principal's own home served as a background.

William Farnum, William Fox star, is one of the most moosest of any stage or screen celebrity.

Lucille Hamill, who plays the part of Dorothy Vandergriff in "The Battle Cry of Peace," is one of the youngest emotional actresses on the screen. She is 11 years old.

The English movie producers also are luring more of the luminaries from the stage to the screen. Lady Tree and Sir George Alexander are among the latest deserters of the "legit."

There are no accurate figures available, but it has been said that more than \$500,000 is invested in the motion-picture industry in America, and it gives employment to more than 100,000 people.

Gaston Bell, a William Fox player, has instituted court proceedings to prevent the further use of his name in connection with a recently marketed throat lozenge.

Robert Warwick, one of the most popular of present-day screen artists, was the Pickford's offering yesterday in "The Sins of Society," an interesting photodrama revolving about gambling and its effect in society, which will run until Saturday night. Military review, racing, river scenes, drilling on troopship, with the torpedoing of the boat, are among the incidents which make the film worth while.

The story tells of the effect of yielding to gambling instincts on two sisters, Marion and Gwendolin Beaumont (portrayed by Dorothy Fehrlid and Frances Nelson, respectively). Left with mortgaged property, gambling soon involves Marion in the scheme of Noel Ferrers to secure the hand of the younger sister, Gwen. A diamond tiara lent to Marion is pawned supposedly by the girl and the money lost on a horse race. Marion had substituted lead for the tiara, and when on the point of discovery Captain Dorian March (Warwick) comes to her rescue, escapes by swimming the river, goes to Canada and enlists for war. The troopship is torpedoed—a realistic bit of work—and the captain supposedly drowned. He escapes and appears on the scene in time to prevent the marriage of Ferrers.

At a recent banquet of the New York Screen Club, Warner Oland, a William Fox photoplayer who has just returned from the European trenches, served a special dish of his own preparation called "The Death Grenade." Its ingredients consisted of eight pounds of Limburger cheese, two bottles of Worcester sauce, the beaten whites of two dozen eggs, a dash of salt and pepper, two cups of whipped cream and a wineglassful of vinegar. The ingredients were mixed together, cooked until of the proper consistency, and served on thin slices of uncooked salt pork.

Those who partook of the dish, it is said, realizing that all the world is kin, have since fitted out a ship for the relief of the European war sufferers.

It took Justice Summerfield of Los Angeles just forty-seven seconds to change Mae Busch, pretty film favorite of the Keystone Company into Mrs. Francis James McDonald, recently at the Alexandria hotel. The wedding was the result of a seven-day courtship which began on a Saturday night, when

Ruth Roland in "The Red Circle" at Globe Theatre.

THE LILY AND THE ROSE

Featuring LILLIAN GISH AND ROZSIKA DOLLY AS THE LILY AND THE ROSE

A Griffith supervised feature depicting a tragic story of human love and frailty, as only such a genius combined with unlimited resources, all outdoors as a stage and the pick of film-dom's talent and beauty, could portray.

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR JENSEN & VON HERBERG

Today, Friday and Saturday

COLUMBIA

THE THEATER OF NO DISAPPOINTMENTS

Added Attraction—Another Keystone Comedy

Called the "Great Vacuum Robbery," a melodramatic farce comedy, in which thrills and laughs are mixed like the ingredients of mince pie.

McDonald, who is a popular picture actor employed by the Reliance Company, was introduced to Miss Busch.

Mary Miles Minter, the young Metro star, will play Santa Claus to a number of poor children on Christmas Day by giving them a Christmas party at her home in Riverside Drive. The little ones will be the children of parents now identified with the stage or screen in minor capacities.

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PEOPLES THEATER

"Where Quality Is King"

Today, Tomorrow and Saturday

The Popular Morosco Star

MYRTLE STEDMAN

and

MACLYN ARBUCKLE

in

The Reform Candidate

A Drama of Home and Politics that will reach your heart strings. "Boss" Hoke's personal version of Frank Grandell's sensational defeat for Mayor.

There's Love, Romance, Politics, and a plot that will hold you every minute. You must be sure to see it.

Paramount News Pictures

Down-to-the-minute Events from Everywhere.



ROBERT WARWICK IN SINS OF SOCIETY

