

CUMMINGS RAILROAD BILL ENACTED

Hope Held Out for Final Vote This Week, However.

RETURN DELAY EXPECTED

La Follette and Dial Renewed Attack—Discussion Occurs Nearly All Session.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—With the new opportunity created by restoration of the measure to the committee of the whole, senate critics of the Cummins railroad bill today launched a new and heated attack on various provisions of the legislation designed to meet conditions incident to the forthcoming return of the railroad properties.

Senators La Follette and Dial, Democrat, South Carolina, led the renewed attack and their discussion occupied virtually the entire session. The result at adjournment was that the measure was no nearer passage. Leaders, however, expressed hope tonight that final action would be reached before the end of the week.

During the debate today republican leaders of the senate, who had conferred several holiday recess plans and leaders of the lower branch were assured that there is every prospect of having the railroad legislation sent to conference before the holiday recess planned to begin December 20. Final enactment of the legislation is not probable, the leaders agreed, until after congress reconvenes next month.

Confidence was expressed by the conference, however, that President Wilson would await enactment of the legislation in January before turning back the properties.

Director-General Hines has completed his report to the senate committee on the recent conference with Chairman Cummins and Esch of the house and senate committees.

In his attack on the bill, Senator La Follette opposed return of the railroads to private ownership as impracticable, urged a five-year period of government control and charged that the pending measure was virtually for the benefit of the railroads of 5 1/2 per cent.

He said it would not improve conditions that have surrounded railroad operations in the past. If the roads are to be turned back, he contended, it would be better to do it without any legislation than under the provisions of the Cummins bill.

Senator Dial denounced especially the bill's provisions for a guaranteed return to the railroads of 5 1/2 per cent on their face value and added that parts of the bill were "dreams and illusions" as well as impracticable.

Senator McClure, Republican, in the same criticism, asserted that the rate guarantee could not be enforced in the courts. Senators Curtis, Kansas, and Pomeroy, Ohio, defended the rate provision.

The senate tomorrow is expected to report an amendment, introduced late today by Senator Myers, Democrat, eliminating the provision authorizing two employees of the public to be members of the boards of directors of each railroad company.

Budget Estimates Grow. Omissions in submitted estimates for the coming fiscal year bring the proposed expenditures of the government up to \$4,885,400,000. Representative Good, Republican, Iowa, chairman of the appropriations committee, said today that items omitted from the estimates, Mr. Good said, included \$75,000,000 for road construction, already authorized; \$10,000,000 for redemption of war savings certificates; reserve notes and miscellaneous public debts, proposed by the Federal Reserve; \$30,750,000 to continue the \$240 annual bonus to government workers; \$40,000,000 for salary increases of public office employees; \$35,000,000 for supplemental estimates and \$50,000,000 for deficiencies.

The deficit in July, 1919, Mr. Good continued, could be estimated at \$2,389,508,574, to which \$300,000,000 should be added as the working balance needed by the treasury.

PARLOR BOLSHIEVISTS HIT Washington Official Says Professors Spread Radicalism.

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 9.—(Special.)—Clark V. Savidge, state land commissioner, rapped teachers in higher institutions of learning who have become "parlor bolshevists," in an address delivered before the Tacoma public forum last night. Mr. Savidge declared that these intellectuals were the leaders in spreading I. W. W. ideas. Education is the sole antidote for the social ills of radicalism, Mr. Savidge believes.

Mr. Savidge likewise rapped persons who criticized the judges who are to try the I. W. W. murder cases from Centralia.

Rev. Frank Dyer in commenting on Mr. Savidge's statements discounted the weight carried by university instructors who are "parlor bolshevists."

Hood Child Hurt Coasting. HOOD RIVER, Or., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—Alice, 12-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Matt, of the west side, sustained a broken leg in a coasting accident at the Franklin school today. The bobbed was being driven between oak trees, when the little girl's leg was caught against a trunk. She is the third local child to sustain a broken leg in coasting accidents in the past week.

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"JEERS OF MOB" BRING HUN WHINE TO CARDINAL MERCIER

"Very Urgent That Steps Be Taken to Protect Officer Prisoners," Von Bissing Complains, but Fails to Give Details When Requested.



CARDINAL MERCIER AND CARDINAL GIBBONS.

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"I was within my rights." "I waive all claims."

These two statements concerning a single subject in a single brief letter strikingly reveal the embarrassment of Governor-General von Bissing following an epistolary brush with the acute and patriotic cardinal.

The German masters of Belgium had a mania for extracting pledges. In their vanity they doubtless prided themselves upon their extreme "subtlety."

Their aim, however, was almost childishly transparent. They wanted the broad count upon which the occupying power sought to register its cases against King Albert's people. The very essence of treason was the violation of pledged word, given to a government.

Under no delusion about the whole nefarious plan. When all other arguments failed he protested in terms of the most virile patriotism. Where, however, it was not possible to draw upon his armory of logic, erudition and statesmanship he adopted other methods and with conspicuous success.

An early victory and one brilliantly complete was the question of the payment by the German government of the salaries to the clergy. Von Bissing plotted characteristically to render the disbursements of the funds dependent upon a declaration that the priests would not disturb public order.

With prompt and specific reference to historical justification the cardinal explained that the members of the clergy were not public functionaries of the Belgian state. Their salaries were paid on the ground of indemnity for compensation for the confiscation of ecclesiastical property at the time the modern kingdom of Belgium was formed.

He vigorously denied Von Bissing's right to alter the status of the priests by requiring oaths of good behavior with regard to the occupying power. The governor-general was utterly outmaneuvered. If he was, as he said, within his rights, his release, had been doing duty as head doctor with the Belgian army.

These reports were in German in order that they might take the matter with the proper authorities in their respective countries with a view to ameliorating the conditions of the officers and thus to avoid eventual reprisals on the part of the German government. These reports have been read at the same time to Belgian ecclesiastical who are in the camp at Centralia.

What the cardinal actually wrote was that "the Belgian bishops have no designs against public order." Von Bissing was thus forced to regard this general statement as a definite pledge with which his eminence bound all the members of the clergy.

It was, of course, a simple observation, not an oath. That the discomfited governor-general in speciously construed it otherwise was a plain confession of defeat.

CARDINAL MERCIER'S STORY, including his correspondence with the German authorities in Belgium during the war, 1914 to 1918, edited by Professor Ferdinand de Loos, and translated by the Benedictine monks of St. Augustin, Passau, Germany.

To His Excellency Baron von Bissing, Governor-General, Brussels. Sir: since I have the opportunity, I remind your Excellency of my letter of January 27 relative to the salaries of the clergy. My colleagues in the episcopate, whose ideas as well as my own I have expressed to you as actions as myself to find a solution. When I say my colleagues, I must make a reservation in the case of the Bishop of Tournai, who finds it materially impossible to communicate his views.

Believe me, your Excellency, I feel sure it is superfluous for me to make this declaration that the Belgian bishops have no designs against public order. If ever a member of the episcopate forgot the duty on this point, or if the German authorities were to consider him as having done so, we only make one request, viz., that the case be brought to the notice of the bishop of the diocese to which such a one may happen to belong.

Receive, my dear Governor-General, the assurance of my very high esteem. (Signed) D. J. CARDINAL MERCIER, Archbishop of Malines.

\*Note—His Eminence at the same time was writing to the Governor-General to intercede on behalf of the cure of Perwez. (See below.)

Waves Claims to Declarations. Governor-General of Belgium's Office, Brussels, February 17, 1919. To His Eminence Cardinal Mercier, Mechlin: I have the honor to acknowledge your Eminence's esteemed letters of January 28 and February 10.

I cannot entertain the views which your Eminence puts forward in your first letter. This measure in no wise affects the position of the Belgian bishops. As laid down in the Belgian Constitution and Legislature, moreover, it is in no wise contrary to the law. On the conclusion of the war it loses all its force. To prohibit the payment of salaries to the clergy, against whom a number of the clergy, among them a Bishop of Tournai, has already expressed themselves in agreement with my way of thinking.

In your very esteemed letter of the 9th instant, your Eminence has declared that the Belgian hierarchy disclaims the position of disturbing public order. The maintenance of public order constitutes my duty. Since, in view of the position of

MYSTERY OF SOLDIER MURDER IS UNSOLVED

Statements of Night Clerk and Sergeant Conflict.

JEALOUSY IS SUSPECTED

Detail Asked to Return From Corvallis to Help Find Slayers of Mark A. Matthews.

Conflicting statements made by C. S. Richardson, night clerk at the Hoyt hotel, and Sergeant Martin L. Parrish regarding the murder of Mark A. Matthews, Camp Lewis soldier, late Monday night, caused police detectives yesterday to request army officials at Vancouver Barracks to order the return of Sergeant Parrish and other non-commissioned soldiers from Corvallis in an effort to help solve the mysterious murder which police admit has completely baffled them.

Private Matthews, who was murdered by an unidentified assassin, was found in the hallway of the Hoyt hotel, and Main streets at 11:10 Monday night, arrived in Portland at 7 o'clock the same evening as a member of a special detachment of Major George Newlove, which had been ordered to Corvallis to conduct examinations for an officers' training camp.

Orders Declared Disobeyed. Because the murdered man and Sergeant Parrish occupied adjoining rooms at the Hoyt hotel, police detectives made every effort to check up the sergeant's actions Monday night. According to Night Clerk Richardson, Matthews left the hotel early in the evening, while Sergeant Parrish left at about 10 o'clock. Richardson says he never saw Parrish again that night.

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Archbishop's House, Malines, Belgium, February 19, 1919. To His Excellency Baron von Bissing, Governor-General, Brussels: I have received the letter with which your Excellency honored me on February 17 in answer to my communications of January 28 and February 9.

Yesterday I had the opportunity of meeting my revered colleagues of the Belgian hierarchy at Tournai. They have begged me to become their spokesman with your Excellency and to express to you our lively satisfaction and our heartfelt gratitude.

Kindly accept the expression of my very high esteem. (Signed) D. J. CARDINAL MERCIER, Archbishop of Malines. CHAPTER IV.

Von Bissing complains to the cardinal that the French treat German officer prisoners of the Governor-General of Belgium, Brussels, December 31, 1914. To His Eminence Cardinal Mercier, Archbishop of Malines: It has often happened that German doctors who had been made prisoners of war by the French have reported on their return from captivity the inhuman treatment which had been meted out to them by the French.

When we finish our detail here I will have my men report to the chief of police, is the message which Major Newlove sent to army officials at Vancouver barracks last night. The major expressed astonishment that the police were in any way suspicious of the actions of Sergeant Parrish, and he further expressed the belief that the sergeant knows nothing of the young private's murder.

Major Trusts Sergeant Parrish. "He is an old-time army sergeant and appears to be a good soldier and one whose word cannot be doubted," was the testimony of Major Newlove. Although the police believe Sergeant Parrish was not in any way connected with Private Matthews' murder, they would like to see him.

The following note accompanied the governor's letter: The head doctor, Ter Peel, who was a prisoner for some time in the camp at Centralia, who since his release, has been doing duty as head doctor with the Belgian army.

These reports were in German in order that they might take the matter with the proper authorities in their respective countries with a view to ameliorating the conditions of the officers and thus to avoid eventual reprisals on the part of the German government. These reports have been read at the same time to Belgian ecclesiastical who are in the camp at Centralia.

TO BE CONTINUED. 10 INDICTED AS ROBBERS Members of Three Supposed Gangs Must Stand Trial.

Three supposed gangs of young thugs and highwaymen were indicted by the Multnomah county grand jury held to a theory that some of the felony yesterday, and must stand trial in the circuit court for recent hold-ups.

Earl Snyder, Lawrence Murray and T. H. Sorenson, who are accused of holding up H. T. Cash on November 28, among other police charges, are indicted for assault with intent to rob—the legal way of saying highway robbery. The same charge is made against Harold Walsh, Jack Fuller, Ed Drummond, Clement Dressman and an unidentified man for the robbery of Lee Potter, from whom \$1,000 was taken at the point of a gun on November 30.

John Pike, Wilma McDonald and a man known as "Tex" are indicted for the assault and robbery of Alfred Oliver on November 21. Oliver was struck over the head with a milk bottle.

Ralph G. Haymes and George Marchant were indicted for the theft of an automobile.

Silver Lake Bond Meeting Held. SALEM, Or., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—Directors of the Silver Lake Irrigation district held a conference with the members of the state irrigation securities commission here today with regard to the certification of bonds in the sum of \$300,000. Complete data showing the development of the district was given before the commission and a decision will be given within the next few days. The district includes 8000 acres of land and is located in Lake county. T. J. Labrie, O. Amundson and Gus Schroeder represented the district at the conference.

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Woman May Be Involved. Another theory held by the police, who insistently scout the holdup story, is that the man who was involved in the shooting but they are at a loss to work out any tangible clue of this sort. They point to the fact that Matthews had the names and addresses of two Portland girls in his possession and the fact that he had left the hotel without permission of his sergeant to show that the young soldier might have had some appointment. This fact that he was in an apartment house district more than a half mile from his hotel and away from the business district is also given to indicate that he had some special reason for being in the vicinity of Eleventh and Main streets at that late hour.

Woman Only Eye-Witness. Whether there were four men or three who were in the street at the time the shooting of the young soldier occurred is something which the police have not determined to their own satisfaction. Mrs. C. M. Locke, 238 Eleventh street, appears to have been the only eye witness to the tragedy other than the men who were involved in the shooting. As she went to a front window to see if the snow was still falling she says she saw the soldier standing with his hands in the air, while two other men appeared to be holding him. Just as she shouted to her husband that a holdup was taking place, she says she saw the fourth man shoot Matthews.

Mr. Locke rushed to the front door, but by the time he reached the steps he could see but three men. "Two men were still standing with their arms in the air as though they were being held up, while the soldier staggered from the sidewalk and fell," he said. "I did not see the fourth man."

Men Hurry Away. Mr. Locke had the two companions of the murdered man help to lift the body of the soldier into his house after which they went with him to look for the assassin. They ran in different directions after running a block from the scene of the killing and have not since been seen. They told him that they were in a

Snow Nine Inches at Forest Grove. FOREST GROVE, Or., Dec. 9.—(Special.)—The first snowfall of the season visited this locality last night. It was the heaviest in a number of years. Nine inches fell in nine hours. All trains were delayed this morning.

Bomb Found in Fountain. PARIS, Dec. 8.—An unexploded bomb, dropped by a German Gotha airplane during the war, was found by workmen today in the basin of the fountain of the Medici in the Luxembourg gardens.

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If not, turn it in on a better one. Our Firefly and Sunset Heaters are of the best. Don't have the home overheated and jeopardize your health for the sake of \$4 or \$5 a month payment on a new and efficient heater. We make deliveries promptly as yet and hope to be able to continue.

Easy Overstuffed Chairs and Davenport

will be appreciated these cold winter evenings. We show a large assortment for your selection. Visit our store and see the large assortment of appropriate holiday offerings.

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Hawaii May Import Chinese. HONOLULU, T. H., Dec. 9.—(Special.)—Efforts will be made to push the plan this winter to import 40,000 Chinese laborers for sugar plantation work to take the place of Japanese in the event that the latter go on strike or threaten to strike. W. H. Hindle, backed by the various Chinese organizations, is working toward that end.

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