



A SWEEPING REDUCTION

Is Made by the Railroad Commission.

IN DISTRIBUTIVE RATES

The Case Was Portland Chamber of Commerce Against the O. R. and N. Co.

REASONABLE TIME ALLOWED

The Order Herein Must Be Confined to the Rates Put In Issue The Class Rates Between Portland and Points in Oregon.

SALEM, Or., March 31.—Based on the findings that there is no increase in the present commodity rates between Portland and points in the state of Oregon either by way of cancellation of present commodity rates or direct increase, the Railroad Commission today gave its decision in the case of the Portland Chamber of Commerce against the O. R. & N. Company, in which a sweeping reduction is made in the distributive rates between Portland and points east of The Dalles, but the rates between Portland and The Dalles are not disturbed. The plaintiff is given permission to reopen the proceedings should it see fit.

The reduction of rates is made upon the following basis, according to class:

"Between Portland and points east of The Dalles within the state of Oregon the first-class rates should be ascertained as follows: Reduce the present rates by an amount equal to one-sixth of the difference between 25 cents the rate of The Dalles and the present first-class rate to such point. For instance, the present first-class rate to Umatilla is 85 cents. The difference between The Dalles rate, 25 cents, and the Umatilla rate, 85 cents, is 60 cents. Deduct one-fifth, or 10 cents, which makes the new rate 75 cents.

"The other class rates between Portland and points east of The Dalles should bear the same relation to the first class as in the distance tariff, namely, 1-100, 2-85, 3-70, 4-60 5-50, A-50, B-40, C-30, D-25, E-20 per cent of first class. Present rates should not be exceeded on any class. This will necessitate a shading of the old tariff into the new for about 15 miles east of The Dalles.

"A reasonable time should be allowed to prepare and file new tariffs, and the ten days' notice required by law should be waived.

"Of course the order herein must be confined to the rates put in issue—the class rates between Portland and points in Oregon. During the hearing and argument it was contended that if reductions were to be made in the class rates attacked in this proceeding, the same reductions should be made in the distance tariff and the stipulated commodity rates within Oregon. To this proposition we agree and we recommend that the defendant make similar adjustment in its distance tariff and the various stipulated commodity rates, such as coal and wool in the State of Oregon. As those rates were not attacked in this proceeding, we can now only ask whether the recommendation for an adjustment of the distance and commodity tariffs will be followed voluntarily?"

General Counsel W. W. Cotton of

the O. R. & N. Co. advised of the adverse decision of the commission by a representative. He said it would be impossible to determine without a careful compilation as to how sweeping a reduction in the revenues of the road the ruling will mean. He immediately took the matter up with General Freight Agent R. B. Miller and they will probably have a statement ready by tomorrow.

The new relationship of other rates to the new first-class rate as outlined by the commission, after fixing the formula for determining the new rates, is as follows: The first-class rate is to be considered as 100 per cent. The second 85 per cent, third 70 per cent, fourth 60 per cent, fifth 50 per cent; A-50, B-40, C-30, D-25, E-20.

"BROWNSVILLE" BILL LOST.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Five Democratic members of the Senate on military affairs today succeeded in defeating both the Warner and Foraker bills for the restoration to duty of the negro soldiers of the Twenty-fifth infantry, who were discharged without a hearing for the Brownsville affair. The success of the minority was accomplished by voting as a unit against a divided majority. The effect will be to cause both bills to be reported adversely. The majority vote of the Senate would enact one of the bills, however, and Senator Warner is hopeful that his measure will yet become law.

STATE COMMITTEE

Chairman Westgate Calls Body Together to Set Date.

CALL FOR FRIDAY APRIL 10th

The Time for Holding the State Republican Convention Is Left to the Committee and Probably Will Assemble Some Time in May.

PORTLAND, March 31.—At last, G. A. Westgate, United States Surveyor-General for Oregon, has in his capacity of chairman of the Republican State Committee decided to call the body together to set a date for the State convention. Westgate has issued a call for Friday, April 10. The State committee will call the convention and apportion delegates.

The time of holding the State convention is left to the committee and it will probably be held some time in May. There was some fear that the convention would be held prior to the primaries, but owing to the procrastination of Westgate, this fear is now set at rest. Had the State convention been called before the primaries the Senatorial fight and other State issues would have been dragged in. Westgate has studiously avoided jeopardizing the interests of any of the candidates by an early convention, although there had been a demand for it from certain quarters.

Aside from announcing the date for a State convention, the committee will also arrange for calling conventions in the first and second Congressional districts. The first district is organized, but the second is not. The only work for the Congressional conventions is to select two delegates and two alternates for the Republican National Convention to be held at Chicago, June 16. The State convention will select four delegates and alternates, making eight delegates and as many more alternates for the National gathering.

Aside from the delegates, the State convention will also select four Presidential electors, so that this is a matter which will have to be disposed of by the convention. A platform, of course, will also be adopted.

POWER OF A PRESIDENT

Fully Defined by the Constitution.

REMARKS ON SUBJECT

States Could Not Complain if Congress Assumed to do What They Failed to.

IGNORE THE RESTRICTIONS

Teller Called Attention to the President's Expression Regarding Certain Evils Which "Congress Ought to Find a Way to Remedy."

WASHINGTON, March 31.—The alleged tendency of the general government to over-ride the powers of the states and to ignore the restrictions of the constitution was the subject of the remarks by Teller in the Senate today. He declared there had grown up a practice of attempting to justify any act by the Federal authorities whether there is authority for it or not so long as it was ascribed to the public interest. Teller quoted Secretary Root as saying that the States could not complain if the Federal Congress assumed to do what they failed to. He called attention to the President's expression regarding certain evils which "Congress ought to find a way" to remedy. The President's power is fully defined by the constitution and no "interpolation" should be made to extend to these powers. The fall of the confederations of states in the past, he said, resulted from a failure to recognize the rights of each of the states. Speaking of the Benton Dam bill regarding the Snake river, Washington, Teller said the right sought in that bill belonged to the State and not to the Federal government. Teller criticized in sharp terms the forestry bureau, contending that their regulations transcend the laws and afford a poor opportunity to home-owners or prospectors to avail themselves of the opportunity which Congress intends to afford to both classes. The remainder of the day was devoted to a discussion of the Benton Dam bill, Heyburn and

There is a plan on foot to have a resolution introduced at the State convention recommending that nominating conventions be held in the various counties hereafter. These are not to be the old-time conventions, exactly, but instead of directly nominating the convention will recommend a ticket to the voters of the Republican party. The purpose of this is to prevent several aspirants for a nomination making a fight in the primaries.

How to select delegates to the State convention is a question which has not been determined. This is a proposition over which the State committee will have the struggle. A special primary to select delegates is too expensive. The State committee could select them if it desired to assert the authority.

An impression prevails in Portland that delegates will be selected by the county committees. This is sufficiently satisfactory, but gives an opportunity for those who are slighted to make a charge of ring practices. There have been so many accusations of this character of late, however, that the county committees are probably becoming accustomed to them.

Borah, both of Idaho, taking opposite sides, with Heyburn opposing and Borah favoring. Heyburn declared he would maintain his position even if he was satisfied that by doing so he would imperil his seat in the Senate. No vote had been reached when the Senate adjourned.

TEMPORARY SUSPENSION.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 31.—Two hundred and fifty thousand picks will be dropped from the hands of as many bituminous coal miners of the United States this afternoon not to be used again until a wage settlement has been reached between the members of the United Mine Workers of America and the coal operators. The situation, however, does not indicate a prolonged strike. As an open Winter and industrial depression have left a large stock of coal on hand and the differences between the miners and operators is very slight. It is practically agreed that the present wage scale will be continued, but there are some politics in connection with the change in the national officers of the miners' organization and this has resulted in a temporary suspension.

INDICTED FOR PERJURY.

NEW YORK, March 31.—Flora Whitson, one of the girls who testified in the recent case against Raymond Hitchcock, the actor, was indicted today on a charge of perjury alleged to have been committed in her testimony in the Hitchcock case.

RICE TESTIFIES

Before the House Committee on Submarine Boats.

HE DENIES LILLEY'S CHARGES

Through the Committee Lilley Submitted a List of 204 Questions to Rice Dealing With Technical Details of Company's Business.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Isaac C. Rice, president of the Electric Boat Company, was the only witness who testified this afternoon before the House committee which is investigating the submarine boat question. Rice denied Lilley's charges that his company had endeavored to influence the navy department in the manner "to call forth the condemnation and the criticism of the high officials of the navy department." Rice said the only influences which had been used on the navy department had been to build the best boat. "The rest of the story is a malicious lie." Regarding the charge that his company suppressed competition Rice said it was "so utterly absurd it sounded like ravings." He said the charge that his company subsidized the newspapers was pure invention. He denied making campaign contributions or helped to defeat the candidates who did not favor submarine legislation. He claimed that the reports derogatory to his company were being circulated by members of the Lake Boat Company, and while he absolved Lilley from any ulterior motives he said Lilley's information came from these people. Rice asserted that he had been approached four times by representatives of the Lake company to buy out that company or to merge with it. The representatives who were approached he said were U. G. Brown and Charles R. Flint, both of New York. Rice said Brown gave him to understand that through Senator Bulkeley of Connecticut, Brown would have the present investigation stopped if a consolidation was effected. Through the committee, Lilley submitted a list of 204 questions to Rice dealing with the technical details of the company's business methods. Rice declined to answer publicly some of the questions, but stated he would

FORESTRY BILL PASSED

Mondell Continued His Attack on Bureau.

VIGOROUSLY DEFENDED

"Not a Government by Legislation But a Government by Strangulation".

MONDELL'S MOTION WAS LOST

Said He Was Not Against a Reasonable Extension of the Service, But Charged It Had Been Carried Far Beyond Where It Should Go.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—After having gone through many changes, the paragraph of the agricultural appropriation bill relating to the bureau of forestry was finally passed by the House. Mondell, of Wyoming, and Smith, of California, continued their attacks on the bureau, supported by Beringe, of Colorado, and Cushman, of Washington. These embraced charges that the bureau had been created for timber monopolies in favor of large corporations, and illegally assumed jurisdiction over water rights belonging to the Western states, and juggled with figures in order to obtain large appropriations from Congress. The work of the bureau was vigorously defended by Hepburn, of Iowa, and Scott, of Kansas. Mondell also charged the committee on agriculture with being in a reckless state of mind when it allowed to the forestry bureau \$100,000 more than had been estimated for. He charged that being a lump sum it could be used for any purpose, "including advertising," which statement was controverted by Scott, who read a letter from Secretary Wilson saying that the \$100,000 was to cover unforeseen items. Scott declared that the committee had prepared a very conservative bill.

Charging that the forestry bureau had contrary to its claim expended annually over a million dollars more than it received, Mondell said that the bureau goes on "year after year, juggling figures." He moved to strike out the paragraph of \$500,000 "for the proper and economical administration, protection and development of the national forests."

Hepburn vigorously criticized the "chirpings" against economy. As to the forest service, he claimed, the principal objection come from the committee of which Mondell is the head. Twelve of its members are from the states involved. He sarcastically remarked that the members of this committee had seen to it that every acre of land in their states had been improved. "It is time," he said,

give the information to the committee privately. Among Lilley's questions were a number relating to the employment of women by the company to influence the members of Congress. Rice and Mr. Olmstead, one of the members of the committee, objected to this class of questions, Rice denouncing them as "outrageous and perfect lies." Rice denied that large sums had been spent on champagnes or entertainments for the members of Congress or for officials of the navy department, or that any gifts had been made by his company to any member of Congress or naval official.

"they should be content with what they have and not insist on grasping everything that still remains." Hepburn refused to yield, first to Mondell and next to Smith, of California. The latter, who was much incensed at Hepburn's remarks, exclaimed: "You don't dare to."

This nettled Hepburn. "Oh," said he, "I don't know that there is any power the gentlemen possess to make me fear any question he may ask."

Cushman made a vigorous reply to Hepburn. He held up a map showing that the states involved are all located in the Far West and said: "I think the gentleman would not look with such complacency on the forest service if that service should go into his State and take twelve or fifteen counties out of the middle of Iowa and build a Federal fence around it."

He was not, he said, crying out against reasonable extension of the forest service, but charged it had been carried far beyond the point where it should go.

Mondell's motion was lost. Smith then apologized for the remark to Hepburn, which he said was a slip of the tongue. He took one more shot at the forest service, however, declaring that this was "not a government by legislation, but a government by strangulation."

Replying to Cushman, Hepburn said there was no propriety in his question as the cases are not parallel. When the House adjourned the bill had been but half completed.

THE FIGHT A DRAW

Both Men Dissatisfied With Referee Smith's Decision.

ATTEL MUCH THE CLEVERER

The Little Hebrew Had the Best of It Up to the Ninth Round, When Nelson Broke Down His Heretofore Impregnable Guard.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 31.—With the disadvantage of at least eight pounds against him, Abe Attell, the champion featherweight of America, tonight fought Battling Nelson a fifteen-round draw. The fight was most spectacular and there was not one count that the crowd did not stand on its feet shouting for one man or the other. At the end of the contest both men were fairly deluged with blood, Nelson's face in particular presenting the worse sight. Attell had the advantage of all the earlier rounds. He matched his superior skill, agility, cleverness and fleetness of foot against the rugged and sturdier man and by outgenerating his opponent bade fair to win a clear cut decision. The turning point came, however, in the ninth round. Nelson, who had been taking his punishment without a whimper, finally succeeded in getting past the Hebrew's heretofore impregnable guard and once having paved the way, worked his man considerably. In the fourteenth it looked as if Nelson would score a knockout, but Attel's wonderful cleverness and knowledge of ring trickery stood well instead and he stalled and smothered the round out. The consensus of opinion seemed to be that while Attel landed by far the most blows and was much the cleverer, but that these points were to a great extent offset by Nelson's aggressiveness and the superior power of his blows. It was on this basis that Referee Smith based his decision, and he so stated to the press reporters. Both pugilists are dissatisfied with the decision, each man stoutly maintaining that the decision should have been his. The betting on the result favored Nelson 10 to 71-2.