

SENATOR ASSERTS S. P. AS STRONG IN EAST AS IN WEST

Chamberlain Speaks Before Upper House for Free Tolls for American Ships and for Clause Against Railroads.

(Washington Bureau of The Journal.)
Washington, Aug. 13.—Senator Chamberlain, after trying for some days, succeeded in getting the floor of the senate to speak on the regulation of the rates through the Panama canal, and the management of the canal zone. The senator said that he was unequivocally in favor of the house bill. His speech was listened to with deep interest by everyone, and there were few interruptions.

The senator discussed the bill from three standpoints. First, he said, he was moved to insist on the right of this country under either the Clayton-Bulwer treaty or under the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, to discriminate in favor of American shipping engaged in the coastwise trade, and he contended that we could, if we wished to do so, discriminate in favor of American shipping engaged in foreign trade, and without thereby violating the terms of either treaty.

Speaks for Free Tolls.
Second, Senator Chamberlain insisted that American coastwise traffic ought to be given free tolls. He discussed generally the effect of free tolls on transcontinental and other rail rates, insisting that whatever might be the reduction in tolls on American ships, the railroads would have to meet it by a corresponding reduction in their rates.

Third, the speaker said that ships owned by the railroads, or in which the railroads had any interest, ought not to be permitted to pass through the canal at all. He gave his reasons for this contention at considerable length.

World Throttle Competition.
The effect of allowing railroad owned ships to pass through the canal, said the senator, would be to throttle the independent competition and drive the independent ships out of business, enabling the railroad companies to increase their rates as soon as a competition could be swept from the sea.

Senator Chamberlain discussed the Columbia river situation where independent boat lines had brought down tolls to a very marked degree, and had made rates much lower than they had been before between all points where there was river and rail competition. The railroads made a bitter warfare on the independent lines, but did not drive them out of business before they had demonstrated their effectiveness.

Refers to Investigation.
Going into the records to prove his contentions that the railroads have maintained ship lines to use them as clubs against independent ocean carriers, the senator referred to an investigation by the committee on the house in 1892 regarding collusion arrangements between the Pacific Mail and the Southern Pacific to suppress business across the isthmus of Panama, and if such practices were inimical to the business interests of the country to recommend some remedy.

The committee reported on the methods of the company and the methods on the west coast, he said, were the methods on the east coast. The Southern Pacific, declared Senator Chamberlain, owned and controlled some 41 steamships on the east coast, which it could use for commerce through the canal in case congress gave it access to that waterway, and that, moreover, the northern Pacific spent \$400,000 to \$500,000 a year to control docks in New York. He read from the report, regarding the methods of the Pacific Mail, to the effect that the steamship company made a 15 year contract with the Panama railway for the exclusive right to bill freight through from San Francisco to New York. The consideration was \$75,000 a month to the railway company and later this was reduced to \$55,000 per month.

Cummins Asks Question.
Senator Cummins asked if it were not the general policy of the government to prevent the common ownership and consolidation of competing lines. "Does not that policy apply as well to waterways?" asked Senator Cummins. "There is no question what should be the reply to that question," replied Senator Chamberlain. "I do not believe there is anyone in congress who is innocent enough to believe what Mr. Schwerin and his associates have said, or that they intend to build four magnificent, big ships to ply through the canal. It is nonsense to make such claims."

"The people of Portland, Or., are practically at the mercy of the railroad company, which operates a line of steamships between San Francisco and Portland. When the people of Portland put on an independent line to meet the exactions of the railroad's line, what happens? The railroad owned line puts down rates to a point where the independent line can't make expenses and consequently the people of Oregon must go down into their pockets to meet the monthly deficit. This can't go on long, but it makes no difference to the railroad company. It could go on meeting a deficit for six months or six years." Just at this moment it looks as if congress had but a few days to live, and yet this particular congress has down such unexpected things that it may last on and on until the frost tinges the leaves and the voters march to the polls to tell finally just how much they think of Teddy.

It isn't any joke that some of the congress are quite willing to prolong

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the session because they would rather be here than home. They may not be "afraid to go home," as has been said of some of them, but it's certain sure that some of these people are not hankering to go back. But they will have to face the music, and why not now? It's surely a complicated political situation, and as yet no one seems clever enough to hand out a perfectly good prediction as to the results that will be disclosed the day after the ballots are cast.

It's evident enough that the Bull Moosers are very enthusiastic and that they are preaching a crusade. Before now crusades have simply swept the boards. Maybe this will be one of that kind, but the two old parties still believe they can oppose sober common sense to the more or less hysterical propaganda of T. R.

An old Oregonian, who has been in Washington a number of years, and who was formerly correspondent for The Journal—John E. Lathrop—is very ill and his doctor has ordered him to the Adirondacks to recuperate. He suffered several hemorrhages of the throat recently, and in consequence is in a weak condition. Mrs. Lathrop was a Salem girl.

PROMISE OF GREAT CROPS DISSIPATES TRADE UNEASINESS

(Continued From Page One.)

growth, and only within the past month has the plant made any headway. There has been a fair increase in the acreage, and the yield now promises to be an average one for the acreage. The estimates of our correspondents run close to 2,800,000,000.

The western and southwestern states are showing good yields against practically failures last year and the year before. The southern states are suffering from too wet weather.

The yield of oats is going to record proportions, and will easily top the banner crop of two years ago when 1,125,000,000 bushels were produced in the country. The acreage was increased largely through the abandoned winter wheat lands, and the states that suffered so heavy a loss on that account will more than make up the difference in the big yield of oats. Our figures are showing over 1,500,000 bushels of this important crop.

Heavy Yield of Hay.
The base of the food for the lower animals—hay—is assured now at a heavier yield than last year. It will not make a record crop, for the severe winter killed a larger percentage of meadow, and the cold backward spring held the growth of all grasses in check. The production, however, will be more than sufficient and enable the farmer to hold a reserve into the coming year, with a yield of 60,000,000 tons.

The coarse grains and forage crops have a deeper significance than the weighted quantity; the excellent crops mean a recovery in the number of food animals in the country. The cost of feeding cattle was prohibitive, despite the high price of the latter. The farmer who largely supplies us with our food animals does not continue rearing them when he cannot raise the feed on his land. The result has been a heavy inroad upon the supply, which has been checked by the large crops of this year, and which will induce the rearing of large numbers of the animals that supply the market.

Smaller Grains Producing Well.
The smaller grains are producing on a like generous scale to the oat crop and the spring wheat. The barley crop promises about one-quarter larger yield than last year, or approximately 200,000,000 bushels, nearly all the northern states reporting an increase both in acreage and yield while our reports from California show practically the same yield as last season.

"Our reports indicate a rye crop of 38,300,000 bushels, there being some decrease in the central northern states and considerable increase in the northwest and west.

"Potatoes, ranking next to wheat for human consumption, will yield 25 per cent more than a year ago.

"The fruits have been as irregular as ordinarily in the seasonal character of their yields, and on the whole are greater the country over.

Cotton Crop Not So Good.
"The country's great agricultural export staple—cotton—will not reach the proportions of last year. This year there has been too much rain in the south Atlantic and Gulf states to make a big yield. Texas and Oklahoma will probably be the only states to produce more than a year ago, and North Carolina has a promise as good as a year ago. The estimates of our correspondents indicate a crop this year around 13,000,000 bales at the outside.

"The value of the cotton crop, with a reduction in the number of bales, will be as great to the planter as was the big yield of last year. This country produces two thirds of the cotton of the world, most years a larger proportion.

Flax Yield to Be Larger.
"The other product of the soil that goes into the commercial field—flax—will be larger than for the past two years.

Acreage Is Larger.
"The acreage is larger this year, the climatic conditions in the northwest, where the plant is grown, have been favorable, and something like old time yields will be produced.

SUFFRAGISTS WHO ARE ACTIVE IN CHARITIES



Mrs. Clarence Burns, Mrs. Frederick Nathan and Alice Fischer Harcourt, three of the most attractive workers in the cause of suffrage, are not militant. Their work has been done quietly. All three have delivered speeches at public meetings and have taken part either in the management or on the stage in theatrical entertainments for the benefit of the cause. They are equally active in charities that help to relieve the condition of poor children and sick babies who live in the New York slums.

a year ago. This probably will be greatly augmented by our exports of cotton and grain. The cotton crop, despite the floods early in the season in the Mississippi valley, is promising and the price will be a more favorable factor in our export trade than last year. The volume promises to be sufficiently

large to justify the assurance of our ability to protect our gold should that become necessary.

"A careful survey of the general business and crop conditions of the country, as indicated by the advices received by the Continental & Commercial National bank in preparation for this annual summary, clearly indicates a marked increase in courage and confidence in practically all lines of industrial activity. General business appears to be, as a whole, exceedingly satisfactory, the chief source of complaint being in the rather restricted percentage of profits resulting from so large a volume of trade.

"Probably the greatest stimulus to general business activity is a revival in the steel industry, and the most striking feature of the development since the first of the year in the iron and steel trade is the tremendous tonnage and the high percentage of operation, induced no doubt by the low prices for finished products.

Steel Trade Barometer.
"The steel trade is usually regarded as the barometer of the business world, and to a considerable extent this can be relied upon because it enters into so many lines of business enterprise.

"Judging from the advices from the manufacturing centers, not only is labor well employed, but there is a noticeable scarcity at nearly all of the leading centers.

"These estimates indicate an increase in the value of total crop production, allowing for the decrease in market values for cotton and grain, of approximately \$617,000,000. Of this amount \$365,200,000, or more than half, comes from 10 crops of commodities which figure in our export trade, the tremendous tonnage and the high percentage of operation, induced no doubt by the low prices for finished products.

See Indication of Car Shortage.
"It has been a long time since we heard predictions of a serious car shortage. Railroads through their enforced policy of curtailment have not been able to keep their equipment up to the requirements of a period of business activity and for the movement of a large crop production. Hence it would not be surprising that there is considerable congestion during the crop moving period this autumn, augmented by the increased tonnage resulting from a general revival of business.

"Were this country fortified with a more elastic and scientific banking and currency system, the burden of financing the harvest would be inconsequential. But unfortunately our currency fails to expand and contract with actual business and commercial requirements, hence it is necessary to adjust our banking affairs and accumulate our funds in reserves preparatory to meeting the autumn demand of the agricultural sections. This invariably results in a period of superficial ease just prior to the demand of the harvests becoming insistent.

"The moving of crops this year there will be considerable withdrawal of western balances held in the east because of the closely loaned up condition of the western banks.

"Taking the situation as a whole and weighing carefully those retarding influences, there is justification, judging from the advices in every line of trade, for the conclusion that there is ahead probably 12 months of good active business with moderate profits, providing of course that our crops turn out as favorably as present conditions indicate.

WATER RIGHTS BEFORE ENVOYS OF 2 NATIONS

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Los Angeles, Aug. 13.—A 400th prominent Mexicans including Madero cabinet officers and heads of wealthy corporations, are in Los Angeles today to confer with representatives of American interests, regarding an amicable settlement of distribution rights for Colorado river water.

The matter which the Mexican envoys are endeavoring to settle has been in the courts of both countries on several occasions, but no satisfactory agreement has been reached. It is expected that if the present conference evolves a tentative settlement, its plan will be presented to the American and Mexican governments.

APPOINTMENT OF CLELAND DECRIED

Maguire Holds Payment of \$1500 to Referee in Wakefield Case Wrong.

Councilman James Maguire will at tomorrow's session of the city council introduce a resolution condemning the appointment of former circuit Judge Cleland as referee in the \$400,000 suit brought against the city by Robert Wakefield. The resolution provides that the mayor appoint a committee of three to investigate and determine the responsibility for the case being tried before a referee at a cost of \$1500 to the city.

According to the terms of the resolution, trial by referee is at best unsatisfactory on account of the fact that newspaper comment has been made that the attorneys representing Wakefield took active part in the unsuccessful fight of the former judge for reelection. Following is the resolution:

"Whereas, Robert Wakefield has commenced an action against the city of Portland for a large amount of money, the same being in the neighborhood of \$400,000, which action is at this time being tried before a referee; and

"Whereas, it has appeared in the public press that the city attorney waived the city's rights to have said case tried before a jury, all of which said city attorney denies; and

"Whereas, it has been agreed that the city pay said referee the sum of \$1500 referee fees, which is an unnecessary burden to the taxpayers, as there are qualified judges, elected by the people, to try said case, and who have asserted their willingness so to do; and

"Whereas, there are other expenses involved in the trial of said cases, such as stenographers' fees in an amount of not less than \$10 per day, and said case is likely to be prolonged two or three months; and

"Resolved, That the mayor appoint a committee of three to investigate and determine who was responsible for said case being tried before a referee without the aid of a jury, and for the agreement whereby the city is to pay said referee \$1500, and to secure from the city attorney a written opinion as to whether or not the referee proceedings now pending cannot be forthwith ended, and said case tried before a regularly elected judge with the aid of a jury."

Seeing Alaska

To see Alaska light, the steamers of the Canadian Pacific line should be used. Apply for folder setting forth advantages of this line. Ticket office Third and Pine (Multnomah hotel building).

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The Blue Sky Law

Do the advocates of the Blue Sky Law favor the granting of a franchise to the Northwestern Electric without first having the bond and stock issue conform to the provisions of the proposed Act?

Were the Blue Sky Law in effect, it is possible that the proposed bond and stock issue would be of an entirely different character.

The voters of Oregon, in November (in less than ninety days) will vote upon a public utility act, and what is termed a Blue Sky Law. The effect of those measures upon newly formed companies is a very important one to the public.

Why should the Northwestern Electric be so anxious to get a franchise before the people have a chance to vote?

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