

LANE REPORTS RAILROADS ARE NOT SUFFERING



FRANKLIN K. LANE.

Washington, March 23.—Every indication points to an improvement generally in the railroad and industrial situation of the country, according to reports made by the great railway systems of America to the interstate commerce commission. These reports are to the effect that, while the railroads suffered to some extent in the "October panic," the loss was not nearly so serious as was generally supposed.

It appears from the reports that the effect was felt particularly by the western lines, and by the lines in the southeastern part of the country, a part of which were embarrassed not so much by a falling off of revenues, but by their inability to obtain ready cash with which to carry on improvements already begun, while the Western and the transcontinental roads are not suffering materially from the depression. The figures available to the interstate commerce commission indicate also that the general condition in the country is improving materially, with a prospect that it will soon be normal or better.

Strong Upward Tendency.
There can be no question but that within the past three weeks there has been a strong upward tendency in freight revenues. A greater volume of traffic is moving today than has been moved at any time within the past two, and perhaps three, months. The figures of the American Railway Association show that there is less surplus of cars at this time than at any period since October 30. This promises an early return to more normal conditions, and railroad men generally are more optimistic than they have been since

SHERIFF KILLED BY HORSETHIEF WHO ESCAPES

Helena, March 24.—Sheriff Webb, of Yellowstone county, was shot and killed by William Byckfound, a horse thief wanted in Wyoming, about six miles from Billings, today. Webb located Byckfound last night and arrested him this morning. They were riding in a wagon when Byckfound seized a rifle and killed Webb.

Posses of cowboys are after the murderous horse thief, and it is the opinion that if run down there will not be a court trial.

GOVERNOR WILL NOT PARDON GILLETTE

Albany, March 24.—There is no foundation for the persistent report that Governor Hughes will pardon Chester Gillette, sentenced to die next week for the murder of Grace Brown.

The Knickerbocker Trust Company closed its doors. But the increase from \$483,000,000 in 1906 to \$523,000,000 in 1907, on the systems with which I have dealt, still leaves a larger net income for 1907 than for 1906 by nearly \$14,000,000.

OFFICIAL FORECAST FOR NORTHWEST

Portland, Or., March 24.—Western Oregon—Rain tonight and Wednesday; fresh southerly breeze.
Western Washington—Rain tonight and Wednesday; fresh to brisk southerly breeze in the interior; strong south-west gale along the coast.
Eastern Oregon, Eastern Washington and Idaho—Showers tonight and Wednesday; fresh southerly breeze.

VICTOR METCALF UNDERGOES OPERATION

San Francisco, March 24.—Victor Metcalf, who recently resigned as midshipman in the navy on account of ill health, was operated on this morning for appendicitis. He is a son of Secretary Metcalf.

RAILROAD WILL FIGHT NEW DEMURRAGE LAW

St. Paul, March 24.—W. H. Pegg, general solicitor for the Great Northern, in a letter today to Attorney General Young, attacks the reciprocal demurrage law passed by the last Minnesota legislature, and it is inferred the company will contest the law on constitutional grounds.

INTERSTATE DEBATE IN THIS CITY BETWEEN OREGON AND IDAHO THURSDAY

AFFIRMATIVE TEAM



Walter Eaton, Jesse H. Bond, Leader, Horton Nicholas

NEGATIVE TEAM



Earl Kilpatrick, Clarence Wheelton, Leader, Thos. H. Townsend.

The judges of the Oregon-Idaho debate to be held in Villard hall Thursday night are Judge Otto Graemer, of Portland, President Crooks, of Albany College, and Professor Prudenox, of Willamette University. The management has been extremely fortunate in securing these men, for no better could be desired.

The negative team left for Seattle today to debate the University of Washington, and the team from Idaho which meets our affirmative team here arrives tomorrow.

A pretty reception was given last night for the debaters and orators of the University by the Lauman and Philologist literary societies and a neat program was rendered. Edgar Smith acted as chairman and speeches were made by President Campbell, J. C. Vetch, Bert Prescott and the members of the debating teams. Miss Zimmerman and Will Wilbur sang.

A trial debate was held last night between the two teams and members of the faculty who heard it pronounced both teams to be in excellent condition. Their argument is convincing and those who heard the trial say that the debate next Thursday will be one of the most interesting ever held in the Northwest.

The pleasures of the evening will be added to by college songs by the Glee Club and a vocal solo by Miss Irene Simington.

Special cars will be run to the University and all arrangements have been made to take care of an immense crowd. The debate begins at 8 o'clock.



Black Silk Waists
Among the late arrivals of new Spring Goods we received some black silk waists. They are hand tailored, of the latest models, graceful, modest and by far the best values we have ever offered. To women of refined taste these charming waists will appeal. Can you arrange to see them? They are very lightly priced.
Each \$5.00, \$6.50 and \$7.00

Spring Jackets
We are ready with our new 1908 coats for women. They are the box coats and strap trimmed medium colors. They are just right for the Spring and Summer. Each \$8.00 to \$15.00



The Unnamed Baby Diaper
Baby diaper, used without pins, made to fit, will not misshape its legs. It is very comfortable and secure, worth 25c.
Special, each 10c

Ladies' Sweaters
Coat shaped Sweaters in all wanted shades; pockets set in side, will not sag, each \$3.00, \$3.75, \$4.50

New Model Sweaters
For service, style and comfort we recommend the "Richard-ott" hand tailored Sweater. Close fitting, double breasted and with belt, each \$6.50

Ladies' Vests
Special value ladies' Swiss ribbed Vests, each 10c
Long sleeve Swiss ribbed Vests, extra value, each 25c
Ladies'isle finished Union Suits, low neck, no sleeves, knee length, the suit 50c

Table Padding
Quilted Table Padding saves the table as well as the dishes. You should never be without one.
The yard 95c

Banyai Silk Rajah Silks
The Pride of Japan, 27 inches wide, fine sheer, beautiful colorings for Waists or Suits, the yard 50c
\$1.00 quality, all wanted shades, very durable fabric combined with rich lustre of the silk, Special, the yard 75c

Spring Hosiery
Lisle finish lace or plain blue, black, red, pink, gray, the pair 50c
Tan or black plain or lace foot effect, the pair 25c

Notions For Less
Notions for every day wants. Cheaper than the cheapest.
10c Cube Pins, 100 pins to cube 5c
Charles Darning Cotton, 3 spools 5c
5c Pearl Buttons, assorted sizes, 2 doz. 5c
10c and 12 1-2c Laces, buy all you want, the yard 5c
10c Dress Shields, Hampton's special, 2 pair 25c
10c Ribbons all colors, the yard 10c



TRUMP CLOTHES

Cotton Goods Special
India Linon, the yard 15c
12 1-2c India Linon, the yard 10c
12 yards bleached Muslin \$1.00
15c A. F. C. Gingham, the yard 12 1-2c
20c 23 inch Zephyr Gingham, the yd 14c
Apron Gingham, the yard 8c
Dark colored Percale, special, the yard 7c

Infants' Coats
We carry an excellent assortment of infants' wearables. Conspicuous in this line are the long cashmere coats, some braid trimmed, others with wide cape emblems held with silk braids.
Each \$1.25 to \$5.00

Veils and Veilings
New veils and veilings in new spring Shades. Large, medium and small dots. 25c and 40c the yard veils, 1 1/2 to 3 yards long.
Each 85c to \$6.50

Boys' Suits
Maybe the last Suit didn't wear. You didn't buy it here. It wasn't the boy's fault; it was the Suit's. Next time you buy him a Suit buy it here. You'll get a good one if you do.
Suits \$1.50 \$6.00

Dress Linen
20c Linen Duck, 36 inches wide, special price the yard 15c

Linen Pongee
50c Linen Pongee, new shades, also white. The yard 45c

Silk Finished Gingham
A fabric suitable for the light, airy spring dress. Small checks, medium plaids; colors, light blue, tan brown and black. The yard 25c

Hampton Bros.
Where Cash Beats Credit

INVITATION OF CHINA ACCEPTED BY CABINET

Washington, March 24.—The Atlantic fleet will reach home on Washington's birthday next year.

Washington, March 24.—It was decided at the cabinet meeting today to accept the invitation of China for the Atlantic fleet to visit a port of that country on its return voyage from the Pacific coast. It was also decided that no further invitations for the fleet will be accepted.

Invitations of foreign countries so far accepted after the fleet leaves San Francisco include Australia, Japan and China. All other stops will be strictly for coaling purposes.

Stay in Melbourne.
Melbourne, March 24.—In governmental circles it is anticipated the American fleet will spend ten days here and an equal length at Sydney.

METHODIST MINISTER FULLY EXONERATED

Philadelphia, March 24.—Rev. W. E. Shaffer, until a few months ago presiding elder of the West Philadelphia district conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, was today acquitted of conduct unbecoming a minister. The charge was made last December, based on an anonymous letter alleged to have been written by a woman of his district, but the woman denied its authorship and the paper was ruled out. There was a unanimous verdict of acquittal.

LA FOLLETTE BLOCKS PASSAGE OF BILL

Washington, March 24.—Senator LaFollette today refused to give his assent to the agreement to vote on the Aldrich bill Thursday next, saying he did not want to be foreclosed from further presentation of his views. Aldrich then said he would ask the senate to take up the bill tomorrow and continue its consideration until a vote was reached.

UNITED STATES HURRY TO FORTFY MANILA HARBOR

Mare Island, March 24.—Information has been received that the government is preparing to send one thousand workmen to the Philippines the first of the coming month to work on fortifications on the island of Corrigador at the entrance to Manila bay. This will make 1500 to be sent within a month. The fortifications on the island were early recently determined on, and the work will be rushed. Workmen are offered \$15.00 per month.

New Torpedo Flotilla.
Washington, March 24.—The fourth torpedo flotilla was established today by placing in commission the Farragut, Fox and Davis, torpedo boats built on the Pacific coast. The flotilla will operate in those waters.

MANY ARE INJURED ON ELECTRIC LINE

Detroit, March 24.—An interurban car traveling at great speed left the track at Michigan avenue and Thirty-First street this afternoon. All the ambulances in the city were summoned. There were 31 passengers and it is believed that all were more or less injured. None are believed to be fatally hurt.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY FREES BROWNELL

Portland, March 24.—The dismissal of the indictment pending against Former State Senator George C. Brownell in connection with the land frauds in Oregon was the first official act of the newly appointed United States district attorney, John W. McCourt, today.

FURNITURE COMBINE IS NOT UNLAWFUL

Portland, March 24.—At a meeting of the anti-trust committee of the Portland city council, which has been investigating the alleged furniture trust, Deputy City Attorney Frank Grant today announced that he did not believe any evidence had been secured to warrant prosecution, and that there is nothing to show that a combination exists in restraint of trade.

The Portland anti-trust ordinance is patterned after the Sherman anti-trust law, and other alleged combinations will be investigated by the committee.

RACE TRACK VICTIM COMMITTED SUICIDE

Los Angeles, March 24.—A guest at the Hotel Lankersheim, who registered last night as E. Pond, of New York, committed suicide by taking poison. Tickets found among his effects indicate heavy losses on the race track.

FAVORABLE REPORT ON RESOLUTION

Washington, March 24.—Representative Mondell, chairman of the public lands committee, today filed a favorable report on Senator Fulton's land grant resolution. No arrangement has been made for its consideration in the house.

DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE DEAD AT CANNES

Cannes, March 24.—Spencer Compton, eighth duke of Devonshire, died here today of heart failure. He was born July 23, 1835.

BEGIN INQUEST ON DEAD ANARCHIST

Chicago, March 24.—Coroner Hoffman today began taking evidence at the inquest of Lazarus Averhuch, who was killed by Chief of Police Skippy three weeks ago.

Senator Borrera announces he has awarded the \$1000 prize for the best essay on the second elective term to Harcross, an associate justice of the supreme court of Nevada.