

FINAL VOTE ON CURRENCY BILL THIS AFTERNOON

Lane of Oregon and Hitchcock of Nebraska Vote With Republicans Against Exempting Central Reserve Board Employees From Civil Service

Crawford and Cummins Amendments Rejected—Changes Placate Most of the Members.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Senate leaders were hopeful at noon today that a final vote would be reached on the currency bill this afternoon. Radical changes, they pointed out, have placated most of the opponents of the measure, especially the changes permitting re-discount of six months farmers' paper and the increase of the gold reserve to forty per cent. After the bill passes both houses, congress will adjourn to either January 12 or January 19. Senators Lane of Oregon and Hitchcock of Nebraska, both democrats, supported the republicans in their fight against the amendment exempting employees of the central reserve board from civil service examinations and permitting the board to fix them. Senator Crawford's amendment to have the bill forbid interlocking directorates and proposing that no director should be a director in more than one member-bank was defeated. An amendment offered by Senator Cummins to protect borrowers who might be blacklisted by member-banks also was rejected.

TENS OF THOUSANDS UNEMPLOYED IN CITIES OF COAST

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 19.—Several Pacific coast cities took steps today to meet the unemployment situation. The governors of the three coast states were considering the problem. In San Francisco it was estimated that 20,000 were workless. Their number was increasing. A mass meeting was scheduled for Sunday to consider relief measures. The Los Angeles estimate of unemployed was 30,000, including 10,000 women. The Associated Charities, penniless, appealed for funds. The city appropriated \$1500 monthly for three months for relief. A meeting was set for tonight to discuss further measures. Portland, with 6000 to 7000 unemployed, had begun extensive repairs on its water system and was planning street repairs to give at least part-time work at \$3 daily to the idle. Realizing that the comparatively few "moochers" and "yeggs" among work-seekers bring them all into disfavor, members of Seattle's colony of workless itinerant tollers called a meeting to organize a police force and perhaps an entire municipal government of their own to keep the undesirable element in order. The Seattle park board was planning to give work to as many as possible.

MODIFICATION FOR SEAMEN'S BILL VOTED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The house marine committee engaged in considering the La Follette seamen's bill agreed tentatively today to modify the measure to the extent of permitting ship owners who operate only on rivers, bays and sounds to employ crews familiar only with such navigation and not necessarily experienced in ocean sailing. Patrick Flynn of San Francisco, addressing the committee, declared it impossible for stewards and firemen to get drill enough to enable them to handle lifeboats reliably, on account of the pressure of their own work.

GIRL WHO WAS MAYOR OF CITY FOR ONE DAY



MISS BESSIE MAY TOWNSEND
PHOTO BY HARPER SMITH

Atlantic City, N. J., had a Mayoress. She was Miss Bessie May Townsend, the City Controller. The Mayor, together with the Commissioners, went to Philadelphia in the morning to take up the question of a new terminal with the heads of the Pennsylvania Railroad. In her official capacity of Controller Miss Townsend, who is seventy-seven years old and a blond, was the next highest official after the Commissioner, and until they returned from the Quaker City, was the town's "boss."

STRIKERS SHOT IN PITCHED BATTLE SEATTLE STREETS

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 19.—Striking teamsters clashed with non-union drivers of the Seattle Drayage & Storage company here this morning in the warehouse section of the city and in a pitched battle in which a fanlike of shots were fired and the air filled with flying bricks and rocks, one striker was shot through the leg, another grazed on the neck by a flying bullet and a third shot through the sleeve of his coat. The strike situation, which started four months ago when teamsters demanded recognition from team owners and transfermen, was intensified today when men from the Ayers Transfer company joined the idle group on the streets. Storage men declare that fifteen strikers stopped Ben Angle, truck driver for the Seattle Storage company, and assaulted him with a volley of rocks. He was arrested as responsible for the revolver volley which injured two men and narrowly missed the third. Crowds of excited men were kept moving by a patrol of police. The situation is serious, and transfermen declare they will stand for no further abuse. Chief of Police Bannick has ordered a careful guard of the strike district and every patrolman going out on the morning shift was instructed to bring in men from both sides wherever trouble started.

WANTS BARBED WIRE FENCE ALONG BORDER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—To protect his constituents from the encroachment of Mexican rebels and federalists alike, Senator Ashurst of Arizona introduced a bill in the senate today providing for the construction of a barbed wire fence on the Mexican frontier, extending from the Pacific Ocean to the Rio Grande. An appropriation of \$350,000 was asked. The bill provides that the fence must be built of five strands of 12-gauge wire, and must not cost more than \$150 per mile.

RAILROADS SHOW TOP PERCENT GAIN IN PAST YEAR

Gross and Net Earnings Reported by Interstate Commerce Commission as Increased Substantially—Railroads Blamed for Death Harvest.

If Same Attention to Detail Was Shown in Operation as in Checking Pennies, Fewer Accidents.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Railroads pay too much attention to the cash register and too little to human safety. This was the conclusion drawn today by the interstate commerce commission in its annual report to congress. The annual statements of all railroads having revenues in excess of \$10,000,000 for the year ending June 30, 1913, show a gain of 10 per cent in gross and net income, an increase in operating income from \$2,421,380,748 in 1912 to \$2,681,414,961 in 1913, and an increase in net operating revenues of from \$750,805,047 in 1912 to \$828,380,247 in 1913. The increase in smaller roads is at the same ratio. The gain has not been made at the expense of repairs and equipment.

Railroads Blamed
Laying upon human fallibility and negligence the blame for much of the railroads' death harvest, the I. C. C., nevertheless, took severely to task railroad managers, and underlings charged with train operation.

Nearly 74 per cent of the total wrecks investigated by the commission were charged directly to employees' mistakes. The auditing and checking system used for detecting the dishonesty of employees are marvels of ingenuity and careful attention to detail, but means of determining whether trains are operated in accordance with requirements of safety and in conformity with the rules are almost entirely lacking.

The report pointed out that railroads seek to economize by careful inspection, on oil, fuel, supplies and airbrakes for economy, but neglect other considerations which would actually result in greater savings not only in finances, but in human life.

The commissioners recommended standardization of operating rules by federal legislation to bring about safer railroading.

Cause of Disasters
Flagging by inexperienced men, disobedience of signals and overspeeding were urged as other main causes of accidents. The commission reported in favor of use of automatic train control systems, when found perfect, and for wider use of steel cars, found in the past year to be great safeguards against a heavy loss of life.

Vigorous enforcement of the Elkins and Hepburn acts has led to a decided decrease in violations, the report continued, although much evasion by shippers was noted along with failure of railroads to collect proper demurrage charges in order to get around these laws.

In commenting on its fourth section cases, the commission held that
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WIFE MADE HIS LIFE CONTINUAL LOOP-TE-DEE

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 19.—Life was just one continual whoop-to-dee to George C. Peckham, a wealthy real estate dealer, according to the complaint in his suit for divorce which is on trial here today. Mrs. Peckham has charges—
"I am going downtown this afternoon to see some friends," she said, "and haven't time now to talk about anything. However, I may have something to say tonight."
Rapp could not be located.

DENVER SUFFERS SECOND BLIZZARD IN A FORTNIGHT

Mantle of Deep Snow Envelopes City—Streets Become Nearly Impassable and Ties Up Traction Lines—Poor Suffer Intensely.

Storm General Throughout Rocky Mountain States—Thousands of Head of Cattle Dying.

DENVER, Colo., Dec. 19.—Denver's second heavy snow storm inside of a fortnight began at 4 a. m. today. At noon between three and four inches had fallen. Weather Forecaster Brandenburg predicted that the storm would continue all of today and tonight. He did not believe it would be as severe, however, as the last one. This did not mean that the situation would be less serious than before. It threatened, in fact, to be worse. The freshly fallen snow, banked on what was left from the previous storm, soon made many streets nearly impassable. Though the street car company had twenty snowplows at work, fully half its system was tied up at noon and it was expected that by night not a wheel would be turning. The sidewalks were hopeless. Pedestrians took the middle of the streets, following the car tracks wherever they could.

Among the poor there was intense suffering. Delivery of coal has been crippled since the last storm, and today's fall increased the difficulties. A serious fuel famine threatened. By midday two-thirds of the grade schools and one high school had been forced to close. There was no coal to heat them.

The storm was general throughout Colorado, Eastern Wyoming, Northern New Mexico and extended as far east as Iowa and Missouri. The temperature also dropped sharply.

The recent blizzard covered the Colorado cattle feeding grounds and it was feared the present cold would kill thousands of head of poorly nourished cattle. Though the railroads were still approximating their regular schedules, dispatches reported conditions growing worse hourly.

S.O.S. CALLS FOR WARSHIPS FROM TAMPICO AGAIN

VERA CRUZ, Dec. 19.—Admirals Fletcher and Craddock, American and English naval commanders at Tampico, sent "hurry-up calls" today for the United States and British cruisers Chester and Suffolk to leave here for Tampico. The summonses were interpreted as meaning that the rebels were again active in the vicinity. Uneasiness concerning the safety of foreigners at the port was believed to account for the admirals' anxiety for speed.

SCHUMAN-HEINK TO SECURE DIVORCE

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—Mme. Ernestine Schumann-Heink, the operatic singer, would neither confirm nor deny here today a report that she intended seeking a divorce from her husband, William Rapp, Jr. "I am going downtown this afternoon to see some friends," she said, "and haven't time now to talk about anything. However, I may have something to say tonight."
Rapp could not be located.

REBEL COMMANDER WHO NOW CONTROLS NORTHERN MEXICO.



GENERAL FRANCISCO VILLA

WILSON SEEKING MEMBERS FEDERAL BANKING BOARD

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Wanted—A few of the biggest business men in the country for man-sized jobs. Politics immaterial. Address Woodrow Wilson, white house. Figuratively, the president hung out this sign this morning. The jobs to be filled are the ones on the federal bank board, to be created by the currency bill. Realizing that the board will dominate the country's currency system and that its personnel will be of the most vital importance, the cabinet members discussed it at their meeting today. It was decided that the president would do well to take most, at any rate, of the sixty days the law will allow him to make his selections.

WALKER CHAIRMAN OF RELIEF COMMITTEE

DENVER, Colo., Dec. 19.—Mayor Perkins this afternoon appointed John Brisbane Walker chairman of a giant committee of 5600, citizens delegated to relieve the distress of families here which find themselves without fuel and in many cases almost without food, as a result of the storm raging in Denver. The city was divided into 100 sections, in each of which a substitute committee was to do work. Conditions were worse this afternoon on the western slope of the Rockies. The wind was rising and the snow beginning to drift. It was growing colder.

PLAN IMPRISONMENT FOR BUSINESS LABELS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—A bill providing imprisonment of ten years at hard labor and a fine of \$5000 for anyone circulating false statements either verbal or written, regarding the financial condition of business interest, was introduced in the house today by Congressman Wilder of California.

WILDER QUITS POST AS SHANGHAI CONSUL

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 19.—Confirmation of reports that United States Consul Amos P. Wilder was only awaiting his successor's arrival at Shanghai to give up his post and return home, was received here today in the form of a cable from Wilder himself to his wife in Berkeley. The consul's health has broken under the Chinese climate.

BOURNE OPPOSES PUBLIC TELEPHONES SAYS ITS ALL ROT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Bitter criticism for government ownership of telegraph and telephone lines was voiced here today by former United States Senator Jonathan Bourne, Junior, of Oregon. This talk of government ownership, said Bourne, "is all rot. It would result in bureaucratic paternalism and governmental dissolution within a century. Under the proposed plan the government would employ more than 3,000,000 persons—a sufficient number to control the government under present political machinery."

BRIDE TO BE DIES ON VISIT TO GROOM

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 19.—H. A. Gingham, an elevator constructor was held by the police here today, pending a report from the city chemist on a post mortem examination of the contents of the stomach of Miss Hattie Katz 21 years of age, who died suddenly in Gingham's apartments yesterday. Dr. Stafford stated this afternoon that no evidence of poison had been found so far, but he would not say that the young woman died from natural causes. Gingham asserted that the young woman whom he was to be married on Christmas Day, was taken suddenly ill with cramps while in his room and died within a few hours.

SAILORS LASHED TO RIGGING WRECKED SHIP

EAST HAMPTON, L. I., Dec. 19.—With its crew of eight men lashed to the rigging and in momentary danger of death, the schooner John Woolley was breaking up this afternoon on the rocks off Gardner's Island, at the entrance to Long Island sound. The revenue cutter Itasca was hurrying to the rescue.

RAILROAD PROVIDES CHRISTMAS DINNERS

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 19.—One thousand men, not otherwise provided with yuletide cheer, will be the guests of the O. W. R. & N. company to a dinner to be served on the steamer Assala here Christmas Day. Invitations to the dinner were issued today through the Portland Commons, the Salvation Army and other charitable organizations. The best cooks in the railroad company's service will prepare the viands, and mule will be provided to whet the appetites of the guests.

VILLA STARTS REBEL ADVANCE ON MEXICO CITY

Run in Progress on Bank of London and Mexico, Largest Financial Institution in Capital—Money Conditions Worse Than at Any Time.

Zapata and Men Camped in Suburbs—Huerta Expected to Be Fighting for Life Soon.

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 19.—A determined run was in progress today on the Bank of London and Mexico, the largest local financial institution. Money conditions were worse than at any time in Mexico's recent history. The biggest banks' official reports on file with the government, show holdings 10 to 20 per cent lower than the legal requirements.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—That General Villa had started the rebel advance on Mexico City was stated in dispatches received here today from Chihuahua City. It was said he intended to abandon neither Chihuahua City nor Juarez, but will leave sufficient garrisons to protect both places.

General Zapata and his men were encamped in the capital's suburbs. President Huerta was expected to be fighting for his life soon.

Anticipating such a development, the Washington administration was very uneasy concerning foreigners' safety in and near Mexico City.

With a run in progress on the Bank of London and Mexico, financial conditions were desperate.

The money depression was costing Huerta the secession of valuable supporters. Even the army's loyalty to him was doubted.

The American and British cruisers Chester and Suffolk were summoned in haste to leave Vera Cruz for Tampico, where it was believed the rebels were again active.

Though a Mexican federal soldier was killed by American regulars on United States soil near Ojinaga yesterday, it was not believed complications would result.

The American ship Salace was ordered from Brooklyn to Vera Cruz.

ASK RAILROAD TO USE WOODEN CARS INSTEAD OF STEEL

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 19.—The West Coast Lumber Manufacturers' association today adopted a resolution urging the Union Pacific railway company to re-consider its action in advertising for bids for the construction of \$5000 steel freight cars because of the belief that it will prove a serious blow to the lumber industry, especially should cars of steel construction be universally adopted. While the resolution does not directly say so, the intimation is apparent that if the Union Pacific insists on substituting steel for wood in the manufacture of freight cars the lumber manufacturers will retaliate by shipping over competing lines into Union Pacific territory.

ARROGANT OFFICER SENTENCED TO PRISON

STRASSBURG, Dec. 19.—Lieutenant Baron von Forstner of the garrison at Zabern, whose insulting remarks concerning citizens of Alsace started a series of riots, was sentenced today to forty-three days imprisonment for sabering a lame shoemaker during one of the disturbances.