

BURLESON ASKS 5 YEAR CONTROL OF WIRE LINES

Postmaster General Says Government Should Maintain Operation During Period of Reconstruction in Order to Protect Telephone Companies Facing Financial Stress.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—By a vote of 10 to 8 the house postoffice committee decided to report a bill providing for the continuance of government control of telephones and telegraph until December 31, 1919. Chairman Moon was directed to seek a rule giving the measure right of way in the house.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Postmaster General Burleson, urging extension of government wire control through the period of readjustment, told the house postoffice committee today that many telephone companies were facing financial stress and that the public was doomed to poor service under private operation.

"If I wanted to force government ownership, I would say turn back the wires in three months," said Mr. Burleson.

Theodore N. Vail, of the American Telephone and Telegraph company, he said, had advised extension of five years of government control, and hundreds of other telephone men asked extension of two to six years.

Mr. Burleson said that conflicting authorities in various states and thousands of municipalities would make it impossible for the wire companies to operate, if returned immediately to private ownership.

Need of Control Shown

"But they were built up on that system," interrupted Representative Madden of Illinois.

"Yes, and the time of reckoning was at hand when they were taken over," rejoined the postmaster general.

Toll or long distance rates, according to Mr. Burleson, should be universal as is the postage rates. He added that the new toll rates, fixed by the federal wire control board, were unchanged or lower on 70 per cent of the calls and higher on 30 per cent.

Chairman Moon asked Mr. Burleson for his opinion as to fixing December 20, 1920, as the date for ending government control. The postmaster general said "the danger" would be that congress would have been in session but a month.

Representative Steenerson of Minnesota, asked about the origin of the wire control law and Mr. Burleson, interrupting him, said:

Not the instigator
"I know what you want; you want to know whether I instigated the resolution. Well, I did not."

Mr. Steenerson suggested that Mr. Burleson might know the reason for congress being asked to pass the law for wire control, but the postmaster general said that the first he knew of the resolution was when Representative Aswell of Louisiana introduced it.

"Was it for war purposes?" asked Representative Steenerson.

"You must ask the president. I do not know," answered Mr. Burleson.

"Can't you say whether it was for the national security?" persisted Mr. Steenerson.

"I am quite sure it was, or the president would not have taken over the wires," answered the postmaster general.

RED FLAG BILL SIDE-TRACKED

SALEM, Jan. 28.—Representatives of organized labor, who appear to be against the anti-Bolshevik act now pending in the legislature, yesterday succeeded in blocking, for a time at least, passage of the Gordon red flag act.

The bill came up for third reading and final passage yesterday, but instead was re-referred to the judiciary committee because of unexpected and violent opposition by Eugene E. Smith, labor representative, to the incorporation of the phrase "defiance of the law."

Smith's opposition was the more unexpected because it was understood that there was a tacit agreement between himself and the judiciary committee that if certain changes in wording were made in the bill, pulling a few of its sharper teeth, it would not be opposed by organized labor.

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PHYSICAL TRAINING PLAN FOR MILITARY CAMPS OUTLINED

Alan Braekinreed, branch chairman of the National Military Training Camps association, returned Sunday morning from a week's trip to Eugene and Salem, where he was engaged in furthering plans for a closer co-operation between the national association and the University of Oregon's military science department. After consultation with President Campbell and Colonel John Leader at the university, Mr. Braekinreed visited Salem and arranged for the introduction of legislative measures under the sponsorship of Senator Julien Hurley of Vale and Representative Wm. H. Gore of Medford, designed to supplement a measure already adopted by the senate and certain of adoption in the house making daily physical training compulsory in the grammar and high schools throughout the state; this latter measure was introduced by Senator Panks, and places the courses of physical training under the direction of State Superintendent Churchill.

The university measures, following plans prepared by Colonel Leader for the university and by Mr. Braekinreed on behalf of the association, will provide for the addition to the university curriculum of a course of physical training in the form of a wide range of sports, combined with military drill and the study of the military sciences as a feature of the course, of which the sports will nevertheless form a major part, with further provision for carrying on the same courses under the state superintendent's jurisdiction and under the direct supervision of Colonel Leader throughout the state in the grammar and high schools; extension classes for adults outside of the schools in the various communities where school classes are established will be provided for, following somewhat the plan of organization prepared by Mr. Braekinreed last year for the local officers' training classes under Colonel Leader's supervision which were a feature of activities during the closing months of the war.

An important feature of the university's plans will be the holding of a series of summer camps for combined military and physical training of an intensive character on the university campus, under the direction of Colonel Leader and the university staff. Special facilities will be provided for the attendance of national guard and other militia officers, physical training teachers and other school teachers interested in the courses, and members of the extension classes.

It is the hope of those interested in the proposed measures that a general spirit of interest in a well rounded physical development will be awakened in the growing generation and that this interest will receive a hearty support on the part of parents and teachers throughout the state. An investigation conducted by the state health committee for the public schools has shown that fifty per cent of those rejected as physically unfit for general military service could have passed the examination if the proper physical and remedial exercises had been taken in the public schools. Under the present system of playing games in the schools only a very limited number of students are reached, and to a great degree only those who are in the least need of the advantages derived from the games, the proposed new system will reach all of the students in a degree adapted to their physical fitness and requirements, as determined by a proper medical examination; the spirit of individual effort and competition will be invoked in place of the accepted rivalry of picked teams, and interest in the course will be maintained through the introduction of a wide range of sports, many of which will be new, at least in general experience, to this part of the country, such as squash rackets, handball, tennis, volleyball, association football, rugby and soccer football, hockey, basketball, cricket, track athletics, cross-country runs, etc. Some of these games named are, of course, already played in the schools and facilities are at hand for playing them, but many of the games introduced to give variety of exercise and stimulate interest through the avoidance of monotony in the courses will be such as have not heretofore been played in the state, and an appropriation to provide the necessary apparatus will be included in the legislative measures prepared to establish the necessary work. In this connection, it will be of interest to know that a measure now before congress, with every prospect of adoption at this session, provides for federal aid to states appropriating money for the purposes outlined in the university plans. The proposed federal legislation is independent of any of the measures proposed for universal or other military training, and is a direct outcome of national recognition of the needs revealed by the physical examination of recruits to the army and navy, which have been the subject of investigation by the public school health committee of this state.

Steps are also being taken by the University faculty and others interested, including Mr. Braekinreed and Alma D. Kutz of Portland, state chairman of the national military training camps associations, to hold a summer cantonment regularly each

OPTIMISM FOR FUTURE RULES BERNE MEETING

BERNE, Switzerland, Jan. 28.—(By Associated Press.) A tone of carefully modulated optimism as to results expected from the International Labor and Socialist conference now assembling here characterized the views expressed today by Hjalmar Branting, Swedish socialist leader.

M. Branting mentioned the visit paid to Paris by Arthur Henderson, British labor leader, and his conference with Foreign Secretary Balfour as an indication that the peace conference intended to attach weight to the demands and desires of labor. He hoped, he said, that the conference would find a way to establish a minimum of living standards for workmen altho he recognized it naturally was impossible to attempt to standardize wages.

The Swedish socialist leader expressed whole-hearted endorsement of President Wilson's ideas regarding the making of the peace, altho some of his remarks appeared to indicate that he was somewhat skeptical as to whether these ideas would triumph completely. He was extremely pessimistic as to the German workmen's future declaring that the situation in Germany was extremely critical and he feared the results unless relief came quickly.

SOUTHERN SHIPPERS FOR PRIVATE CONTROL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—R. C. Fulbright of Houston, Texas, representing the Southwestern Industrial Traffic league, before the senate interstate commerce committee, opposed government ownership and operation of railroads, and urged that all rate regulatory powers, including the power of suspension, be immediately restored to the interstate commerce commission as a protection to shippers. He also opposed the plan advocated by the railroads for the creation of a railroad department on the ground that it might inject politics into the management of the roads.

RUNS AMUCK WITH GUN IN PHILADELPHIA

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 28.—Running amuck with a loaded revolver in each hand, a maniac sped through the streets of the central section of the city today, shooting in every direction as a yelling throng followed him. In the fighting two policemen and a pursuing chauffeur were killed and five others were wounded. As he ran the maniac shouted: "Come on, you American cowards, I'll show you how to fight."

A motorcycle policeman overtook the man after a chase of nearly a mile and beat him into unconsciousness.

AUSTRIANS SEEK SWISS ANNEXATION

BERNE, Switzerland, Jan. 28.—(By the Associated Press.)—Petitions circulated in the district of Voralberg, on the Austrian frontier, urging a union with Switzerland, have met with surprising support. In the first 20 towns and villages between 90 and 98 per cent of the citizens signed the petitions. They are addressed to the Swiss government and the peace conference.

36 STATES CERTIFY DRY AMENDMENT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Thirty-six states, the necessary three-fourths, had certified to the state department their ratification of the federal prohibition amendment today and preparation of a proclamation to make the amendment effective was ordered.

Kansas was the thirty-sixth state to report today.

year at the University in connection with the University's summer camps. This movement would result in bringing to the state annually a large number of men interested in military training and sports from all of the states included in the western department of the United States army.

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Stop that weakening, persistent cough or cold, threatening throat or lung affections, with Eckman's Alternative, the tonic and upholder of 29 years' successful use. 50c and \$1.50 bottles from druggists, or from ECKMAN LABORATORY, Philadelphia

FIRST AID TO FARMERS OF WAR RUINED SECTIONS

LONDON, Jan. 28.—A movement to lend practical first aid to the farmers, orchardists and gardeners of France and Belgium whose land has been ravaged by war has been begun by the Royal Horticultural society of England. The king and queen have given the scheme their patronage and it is being supported by all the leading horticulturists in this country.

A fund is being raised to purchase agricultural implements and various materials and to send them to each of the devastated districts.

The courageous French peasants are already at work trying to repair the damage done to their homes and farms. New scions have been grafted on decapitated fruit trees and fields and gardens are being prepared for renewed cultivation.

Like parts of northern France, Belgium is a country of small landowners, who have raised intensive culture to a fine art. Before the war each district had its horticultural specialty. Ghent favored azaleas and begonias, Brussels roses and lilies and chrysanthemums, and Aerschot was celebrated for its asparagus. In lowlands, chief attention was paid to lettuce, radishes, melons and salad vegetables. Altogether five million acres of Belgium were under intensive cultivation when the Germans hacked their way thru the little state to attack France.

CANCEL CONTRACTS FOR \$51,000,000 SHIPS AT 'FRISCO

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 28.—Shipbuilding contracts aggregating \$51,000,000 in California yards have been cancelled by the Emergency Fleet corporation, the local offices of the United States Shipping board announced here today.

The order suspended work on a total of thirty-four hulls of which six were with the Long Beach Shipbuilding company, four with the Western Pipe and Steel company, San Francisco eight with the Southwestern Shipbuilding company, San Pedro, ten with the Los Angeles Shipbuilding and Drydock company, and six with the Hanlon Drydock and Shipbuilding company, Oakland, Cal.

The yards had been notified directly by Charles Piez, vice-president and general manager of the Emergency Fleet corporation, of the cancellation of the contracts, according to a telegram received by the shipping board headquarters here from Piez today. No reason for the cancellations was given in Piez's telegram.

Women now nerve on injuries in Michigan.

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Musterole usually gives prompt relief from sore throat, bronchitis, tonsillitis, croup, stiff neck, asthma, neuralgia, headache, congestion, pleurisy, rheumatism, lumbago, pains and aches of the back or joints, sprains, sore muscles, bruises, chilblains, frosted feet, colds of the chest (it often prevents pneumonia).

30c and 60c jars; hospital size \$2.50.



PAGE TONIGHT

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