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First National Bank, OF BLOOMSBURG, PA.

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 1907

WASHINGTON

From our Regular Correspondent. Washington, D. C. Jan. 7, 1906.

Commissioner of Corporations Garfield is now engaged in a study of water and rail transportation rates with a view to seeing whether the water freight rate cannot be used in many localities to keep down the rail rate. The theory generally accepted by the public as a fact, is that water transportation being so much cheaper than railroad, there is a great tendency to cut freight rates wherever rail and water lines come into active competition. This is true enough but, the point in Mr. Garfield's investigation so far is that these investments in transportation never really come into competition. It seems that the railroads own or control practically all the water lines and they are thus able to keep up the price of water-borne freight to approximately the same point as rail freight.

This has been brought out by the Interstate Commerce Commission in a number of its investigations recently. It has been shown that a number of the trans-continental railway lines either actually own trans-Atlantic and trans-Pacific steamship lines or else own the controlling interest in their stock, while they are run ostensibly as separate companies. This is particularly true of the Canadian Pacific, the Northern Pacific, and the Great Northern. Turning to the coastwise lines, practically all of them are either owned or controlled absolutely by the railroad companies.

Railroad companies operating to adjacent foreign countries such as Canada and Mexico, own the steamship lines which would compete with them to these countries. The same is true of freight lines on rivers, canals and lakes. In fact, it has been found that the railroads have combined to practically kill freight transportation on the lower Mississippi.

One instance in point was bought out recently when the Interstate Commerce Commission was investigating the transportation of coal into Washington from the West Virginia coal mines. One witness testified that he was offered coal at the mines by some of the independent companies at such a low rate that he believed he could sell it at an immense profit in Washington. He found, however, when he came to make terms with one of the railroad companies that the freight on the coal would just exactly eat up all his profit. He then tried various combinations with the different railroads running into Washington, but found to his surprise that all their rates, even though he routed the coal from West Virginia into Washington by way of Richmond, came to exactly the same figure. Then he tried the scheme of water transportation. There was a very low railroad rate from these mines to the seaboard at Newport News, but he found after taking his coal to Newport News, that the railroads so thoroughly controlled the Potomac River transportation that it would cost him exactly the same

to bring the coal to Washington by rail and water as though he had shipped it by an all rail route.

It is expected that Mr. Garfield's investigation will result in recommendations to Congress tending to entirely divorce railroads from control and ownership of water freight routes.

Quite an interesting report has been received by the Philippine Commission as to the conditions in the islands and the outlook for the coming year. It is stated that the situation is better than it has been at any time since the American occupation. The improvement is most noticeable in the decline of ladronism, that is to say, the bandit reign of terror that has so long been the curse of all the Philippines and particularly of Luzon. From all accounts it appears that most of the bandits have been reformed through being buried. The provinces of Cavite and Batangas, which have always been strong centers of ladronism, have been entirely cleared of bandits and Aginaldo, the one time head of the insurrection, has actually leased 1500 acres of land from the government in these troubled provinces and has now settled down as a peaceful cultivator of the soil.

There has been a good deal of trouble in the island from droughts, locusts, hurricanes, and the rhinderpest. But though the hemp crop was damaged to the extent of \$4,000,000, the new species of hemp introduced by the Agricultural Department has proved excellently adapted to the needs of the islands and the crop as a whole has been good. There is a comfortable treasury balance to the credit of the insular government, and the only thing now wanting to complete the happiness of the natives is a little better tariff relation with the United States. The tobacco crop has fallen off, the report says, through lack of an adequate market, none of it being shipped to the United States owing to the prohibitive rates of the Dingley tariff. It is stated that could the rates on tobacco, sugar and hemp, be reduced so as to admit them to the American market, the commerce and agriculture of the island would pick up immediately and there would be even more general prosperity. It may be prophesied from the Washington end of the line, however, that there is small prospect of the Dingley rate being reduced or anything done at the present session, with the moribund Philippine tariff bill.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has just started out on a new line of investigation which it expects to be most productive. It is nothing less than an inquiry into the relation between the Southern Pacific and the Union Pacific Railways. Since Mr. Harriman owns both of these lines any investigation

in as to the relationship between them would seem almost superfluous, but the Commission has started this probe and promises also to include in it a scene of its investigation the relation between the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern, both of which are owned by that grand old man of railroad finance, Mr. James J. Hill. It will be remembered that the Northern Securities Company was legally dissolved by the government when it was organized to act as a holding company for the stock and bonds of Mr. Hill's two railways. The shippers along these two lines, however, say that the dissolution of the Northern Securities Company has no apparent effect on the relation between Mr. Hill's two railways. There is a remarkable semblance, also, in the condition of the line further south owned and controlled by Mr. Harriman. The Interstate Commerce Commission professes to believe that it can control the situation better than the United States Supreme Court, but whether it can will only be known when its investigation into these four roads is finished, and it has tried the scheme of regulating them by rate fixing.

LEGISLATORS WANT MORE PAY.

Bill to Make Salaries \$2,000 Will Probably be Introduced.

There is every probability that soon after the Legislature reconvenes a bill will be introduced increasing the pay of members of the House and Senate from \$1,500 to \$2,000 for each term.

There has been a great deal of complaint among the members over the comparatively small amount allowed them by the State for their services, and the feeling is general that \$2,000 a year is none too much for a man who gives his time and energies to legislative duties.

Representative Sheatz in discussing the subject said that he was in hearty sympathy with the proposition, and that in his opinion \$2,000 would be little enough to pay a member, for, he said, the average Representative loses considerably more than that sum by neglecting his personal business while he is in Harrisburg.

In past years when the members had passes over the various railroad lines they were able to struggle along on the \$1,500 that is allowed them. Since the abolishment of the free pass the situation has changed and the member from a distance finds that, if he desires to go to his home during each recess, his railroad fares will eat up a large part of his salary.

This session State Treasurer Berry has determined that he will advance the members only \$300 each month on account of their salaries, and the old custom of "accommodating" the men with any amount they might ask for, up to the entire salary for the full term, has become a thing of the past.

SIMPLICITY TO MARK STUART'S INAUGURAL.

Preliminary arrangements for the inauguration of Governor-elect Stuart on January 15 have been announced by Senator Fox, after he and Representative Beidleman, both of whom are members of the legislative inaugural committee, had conferred with Governor Pennypacker and other State officials.

The inauguration will be characterized by simplicity, in accordance with the wishes of the incoming governor. The ceremonies will take place on a stand to be erected in front of the main entrance to the Capitol. Immediately after the exercises, which begin at noon, the parade will be reviewed by the new governor.

In line will be one regiment of the national guard of Pennsylvania, picked from the various portions of the State; the governor's troop, the fire companies of Harrisburg and visiting political clubs. The State police will do patrol duty about the capitol and at the executive mansion, and also take part in the parade. The reason for having only one regiment of the guard is that the inaugural committee's expenditures are limited to the appropriation of \$10,000.

The governor's inaugural reception will take place in the grand reception room of the executive suite of the capitol, being the first ever held by a governor in the building. Such functions have always been held at the executive mansion on the evening of the inauguration day. The hours for the reception will be from 8 to ten o'clock, during which there will be a concert by an orchestra in the rotunda of the capitol.

UNCLE SAM'S HOTELS.

They Are Meant Only for Senators and Representatives.

The Philadelphia Record says:— Uncle Sam is building two apartment houses in Washington. They will be the most magnificent structures of that kind in this country, and will cost \$2,500,000 apiece. Exclusively for use by Congressmen, they will be to all intents and purposes detached wings of the Capitol, though separated from the latter by several hundred feet. One of them will be occupied by Senators and the other by Representatives.

These official "Congressional Flats," as they might be called, will be devoted wholly to the personal convenience and comfort of their legislative occupants, who will be surrounded by every imaginable luxury. In effect, they will be huge hotels, each of them occupying more ground than the Waldorf-Astoria in New York, though not so high; and the dining rooms will be on a great scale and very handsome—though guests will be at liberty to have their meals served in their rooms by messengers on the Government payroll and in uniform, if they so desire. Also there will be magnificent barber shops; and indeed, the only regular hotel feature lacking will be bedrooms, all of the apartments being intended for daytime use merely—a fact which, nevertheless, will not bar occupants from utilizing their quarters for sleeping purposes if they wish.

The two buildings, which are to be of white marble, will be exactly alike in respect to their exterior, and will not differ much so far as their interior is concerned. Flanking the Capitol at either end, they will form with the latter a harmonious architectural whole, the great dome dominating the group as the central feature. It would suffice, then, to give a description of one, in order to convey a satisfactory idea of both—save for one or two differences, relating particularly to the number of rooms. In the southern flats, allotted to the Lower House, there will be four hundred and ten rooms—one for each Representative. On the other hand in the northern flats the same amount of space (comprising the whole of three floors) will be occupied by ninety-nine apartments.

There will be in each building four features specially elaborated in an architectural sense—namely, the rotunda, the main staircase, a great room for caucus meetings and the dining room. The rotunda will extend from the ground floor through the entire height of the structure (four stories), terminating with a dome under the roof. It will be 75 feet in diameter. On the second floor will be the caucus room aforesaid, a superb apartment 86 feet long and 54 feet wide. It is designed to be used for public hearings before committees of the House whenever such hearings are largely attended. Private entrances communicate with private stairs and elevators, as well as with cloak rooms and smoking rooms, all of these arrangements being in duplicate, so that members of the majority and the minority may utilize them comfortably without interfering with each other.

On the first floor of each building will be a large and fully-equipped post office, as well as accommodations for telegraph and telephone service. Beneath will be the barber shop. On the second floor will be the dining room, 65 feet long by 30 feet wide and two stories in height, with an elliptical ceiling. It is the intention to finish this room in ornamental plaster, painted.

Perhaps He Meant It.

P— is usually a self-possessed young man; but the other day when dining out he was unexpectedly called upon to say grace, and the best he could do was to deliver himself of the following: "O Lord, bless our sins and forgive this food. Amen."

—January Lippincott's

REDUCED RATES TO HARRISBURG AC-COUNT INAUGURATION GOVERNOR ELECT STUART.

Via Pennsylvania Railroad. Tickets sold January 14 and 15, good returning until January 16, inclusive, from all stations in Pennsylvania. Consult nearest Ticket Agent.

TOWNSEND

We Mean What We Say.

In about two months we move into our own Building, Corner Main and Centre Streets.

We are going to start with a New Store, New Stock, New Ideas. We are going to close out the stock we now have.

Come in and look over the prices.

TOWNSEND

A Stirring Sale of Muslin Underwear!

The time for this eagerly-awaited annual event of ours has again rolled around. Of course it must out-strip similar preceding sales, for this is a growing store, and the way we have grown and will grow is to continually keep beating our own good records.

Therefore larger Muslin Underwear orders than ever before were placed by us, and the snowy new comers—fresh, crisp, immaculate—all brightening shelf and counter in beautiful white profusion.

Such low prices as we have made! How can we afford to do it! That's inside history. For months our eagle-eyed buyers have been searching out and purchasing choice lots, offered at a sacrifice by manufacturers and wholesalers who needed the money. These fortunate purchases enable us to acutely reduce prices on the entire gathering, right at the beginning of the season.

Stocks fresh, full, irresistible—prices absolutely "bed-rock"—make this the Muslin Underwear opportunity of the coming year. Fill every need now.

CORSET COVERS

of Nainsook, lace and embroidery trimmings, some very elaborate. The reduced prices are 1 1/2 cents to \$1.35.

NIGHT GOWNS

of Muslin, Nainsook and Cambric, low or high neck, long or short sleeves, lace or embroidery trimming, all sizes, all at a saving. The reduced price from 45 cents to \$1.75.

THE WHITE SKIRTS.

Bewildering array of Skirts, plain hemstitched, ruffled, beribboned, beautiful. All at a saving. The reduced prices from 45 cents to \$8.10.

DRAWERS

of Cambric, lace or embroidery trimming. Reduced 22 1/2 cents to 90 cents.

SHEETS AND PILLOW CASES

Our prices on sheets and pillow cases represent a saving of from fifteen to twenty per cent.

BLEACHED SHEETS

Nine quarter size 79c and 85c Ten quarter size 85c and \$1.00

UNBLEACHED SHEETS

Ten quarter size 59c and 69c

BLEACHED PILLOW CASES

42x36 22c 42x36 12 1/2c 45x36 25c 45x36 15c

COUNTERPANES

Snow white Bed Spreads, beautiful in pattern and in quality. A wide range of prices, all representing a saving, 75 cents to \$4.25.

F. P. PURSEL.

BLOOMSBURG, PENNA.

Cut off that cough with Jayne's Expectorant and prevent pneumonia, bronchitis and consumption. The world's Standard Throat and Lung Medicine for 75 years. Get it of your druggist and keep it always ready in the house.

Weak Lungs Bronchitis

For over sixty years doctors have endorsed Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for coughs, colds, weak lungs, bronchitis, consumption. You can trust a medicine the best doctors approve. Then trust this the next time you have a hard cough.

The best kind of a testimonial— "Sold for over sixty years."



Ayer's Pills keep the bowels regular. All vegetable and gently laxative.

CASTORIA.

Beare's The Kid You Have Always Bought