# COMMUTERS RENEW FIGHT FOLLOWING FREIGHT VERDICT

## Urge State Commission to Grant Rehearing on Ground Argument of Railroads is Now Groundless.

The decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission granting the railroads in the East a 5 per cent. increase in freight rates, commuters declare, should result in a prompt reopening of the entire passenger rate increase case before both the Interstate and the Pennsylvania Public Service Commissions on the ground the increased passenger revenue is now not needed by the railroad companies.

Edwin M. Abbott, attorney for commuters, pointed out that the railroads originally asked for a passenger increase at the suggestion of the Interstate Commerce Commission, when the plea for a freight increase was first denied. The subsequent granting of this latter plea of the railroads, Mr. Abbott declared, destroyed the basis of the railroad's claim for passenger increases.

Early in the passenger rate fight it was openly charged by commuters that the railroads were using this as a club to force through the freight increase. The intimate relation of the two requests of the railroads was further established during the preliminary hearing on the passenger case here last month, when ex-Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker asked attorneys representing the railroads if they would postpone the proposed increase until the board at Washington had passed finally upon the freight increase.

A complaint was filed with the Pennsylvania Public Service Commission today charging that the three railroads entering Philadelphia had failed to comply with a clause in the recent decision of the Commission in the passage rate case, in which the railroads were ordered to file, post and publish schedules of the new rates in time to give the public one day's notice of the change.

Mr. Abbott said an investigation along the main lines of the three railroads had brought to light the fact that the railroads had disregarded the order of the commission.

Despite the probability of the Commission granting a new hearing, Mr. Abbott declared the commuters did not intend to stop their agition for the removal of the Commission on the charge of "misconduct in office."

MAY PRESS CHARGES.

If no answer has been filed by Monday to the list of questions filed with the Commission yesterday, charges will be filed with Governor Tener against every member of the Commission.

## PENN'S SPHINX SO COLD IT MAY BREAK IN TWO

### But Is Too Big to Be Carried Through Doors of Museum.

The snappy end of an Arctic breeze that stings
Like the lash of a blacksnake whip,
Shrieked through the stark, denuded trees and
Into the face of the Sphinx did rip—
Who squats in granite grandeur glum,
In the yard of the U. P. Mu-se-um,
By age old disposition mum,
And longs for a foreign trip.

The Sphinx was cold as the frozen North, and
He made his two-ton figure shake;
"Beware," at last he sputtered forth, "or my
granite frame will freeze and break;
Once I was young and brae and bold,
But now, egad, I'm getting old;
And I wanna get out of the bitter cold
And go back home to bake."

Several blankets, ear muffs, pulse warmers and a large open fireplace are badly needed by the aged sphinx who sits in front of the University Museum at 34th and Spruce streets and defies the museum authorities to take him inside where it's warm. Officials have come to the conclusion that if he stays outside much longer the cold will break him in half, but the only way of getting him inside is to break a hole in the wall, the door not being large enough.

The sphinx apparently is too old and "set" in his ways to get acclimated. For several thousand years he had been accustomed to a sun-baked residence in Egypt. He got so accustomed to the sun that he cannot get along without it. Professor Max Muller, noted Egyptologist, says that one year of this climate will do more to damage a sphinx than 5000 years of captivity in Egypt.

The full name of the sphinx at the museum is Rameses II. So far the museum authorities have not decided what to do about him. He probably will have to stay cold for a time.

### No War Tax on Power of Attorney

It was announced today at the office of the Internal Revenue Collector, in the Federal Building, that a power of attorney to transfer bonds or stocks on the books of a corporation by the form on back of stock certificates is not subject to "war tax."

### SUPERIOR COURT DECISIONS

With the filing of a number of orders and judgments today the Superior Court concluded its fall session in this city and adjourned to meet on February 23 at Williamsport. The decisions rendered were as follows:

By JUDGE ORLADY:

Frank et ux. vs. Allegheny Valley Street Railway Company. From Common Pleas of Allegheny County. Judgment reversed.

Miller vs. Lehigh Valley Railway Company. Appeal from Wyoming County. Assignment of error overruled and judgment affirmed.

The Italian Co-operative Banking Association vs. Lagpeda et al. Appeal from C. P. No. 1, Philadelphia. Judgment affirmed.

Kerbaugh et ux. vs. United States Express Company. C. P. No. 2, Philadelphia. Assignments of error all overruled and judgment affirmed. Judges Rephart and Trexler dissent.

Powell vs. Spiland et al. C. P. No. 2, Philadelphia. Judgment affirmed.

Dougherty vs. Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company. C. P. No. 3, Philadelphia. Judgment affirmed.

Martin vs. Ashbridge and Baden Street Railway Company and the Beaver Valley Traction Company. Appeal from Beaver County. Eighth Assignment sustained. Judgment reversed.

Maurer et al. vs. Brennan et al. Appeal C. P. Northumberland County. Order reversed and proceedings set aside at costs of appellee.

### SUPREME COURT

The Justices of the Supreme Court of the State will assemble in this city for consultation on January 1 and 2, and the regular winter session of the tribunal will be opened on Monday, January 4.

Holiday Gifts
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Useful, durable articles in leather for travelers. Trunks, Suitcases, Handbags, Fitted Bags, Umbrellas, etc.
Repair Dept. Mfrs.
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The Old Trunk Store, Established 1852.
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## RAILROADS OF EAST GRANTED INCREASE

Continued from Page One

roads." Mr. Clements seriously doubted the legality of the increase.

"The carriers are suffering now more from want of freight to carry than for higher rates," he said. "It would not seem to be out of line with ordinary prudence and conservatism prevailing in other lines of industry, if the carriers had undertaken to meet this apparently temporary situation as have others."

FINDS SITUATION CHANGED.

"The findings of the original report are modified in the light of the changed situation as disclosed," the Commission declared.

Increases on rates on cement, starch, brick, tile, clay and plaster, denied in the former application, were granted today under certain limitations.

If the various increases involve a change in the relationship under the "long and short haul" rule between intermediate points and more distant points outside of official classification territory, "relief from the fourth section of the act must first be secured on regular application."

"The conflict in Europe," said the commission, "will doubtless create unusual demand upon the world's loan fund of free capital, and may be expected to check the flow of foreign investment funds to American railroads.

RATE OF INTEREST HAS RISEN.

"It appears that our railroads represent the bulk of European investment in this country. The rate of interest, the hire of capital, has risen during the last decade and may rise still further.

"It is computed that in the years 1915 to 1917 the carriers must arrange for the payment or refunding of securities aggregating over $500,000,000.

"While we differ as to the relative importance to be attached to the various considerations presented, we agree in the conclusion that by virtue of the conditions obtaining at present it is necessary that the carriers' revenues be supplemented by increases throughout official classification territory.

"Whenever the consequences of the war may prove to be we must recognize the fact that it exists, the fact that it is a calamity without precedent, and the fact that by it the commerce of the world has been disarranged and thrown into confusion.

"The means of transportation are fundamental and indispensable agencies in our industrial life, and for the common weal should be kept abreast of public requirements.

OPERATING REVENUES' DECLINE.

"For the fiscal year just ended the net operating revenues as shown by the carriers are lower than was estimated or anticipated when the original report was issued. Not since 1908 have the net operating revenues been so low as in the fiscal year ending June last. From whatever comparative standpoint used, the net operating revenues of the last fiscal year must be regarded as unduly low.

"While the gross revenue in that year declined only about 3.4 per cent., the net revenue shrank approximately 17.7 per cent.

"The fact remains that, if the increase in depreciation and betterment accounts in the last fiscal year over the average for five years, were added to their net operating income for the last year, the result of operation would still fall far below a fair return upon the amounts carried upon the books as an investment in property.

"The like may be said as to the recent enlargement of expenditure on roadway, newer type steel cars and locomotives.

"The testimony shows that while some maintenance is being deferred, other maintenance, deferred during the last fiscal year, is now being made, and that the expenditures therefore during the months of July and August measured up to the level of recent years. The testimony also shows that transportation is being reduced through the laying off of employes and cancellation of train service.

FEARED MENACE TO PROSPERITY.

"It was urged on behalf of the carriers and investment bankers that the war in Europe has created a condition which renders the diminution of the carriers' net income a menace to the prosperity of the country; that the war has placed an added strain upon the credit of carriers; that rates of interest will rise; that a large volume of railroad securities is held abroad and would be dumped upon the American markets which would not be able to absorb them without great fall in price.

"With some of these considerations we have as a commission nothing to do.

"We do not doubt that the financial problems of the carriers have been made much more acute by reason of the war, and if we are to set rates that will afford reasonable remuneration we must give consideration to the increase hire of capital as well as to other increased costs.

ORIGINAL REPORT'S DEFECTS.

"The suggestion made in our original report, of methods whereby to increase net revenue, were not susceptible of being put into immediate operation or calculated to produce immediate financial results. The period which has since elapsed has been entirely too short for either purpose. Some testimony was offered on what had been done or undertaken in line with these suggestions, and estimates were made by traffic officials as to the annual yield to be expected. These estimates were not based upon any accounting computation and can afford little guide as to what the results will prove to be.

"The original report, besides the approving of a rate increase, suggested ten sources of additional revenue.

"The present report, recognizing the existence of a new situation since July 29, acquiesces in a territorial extension of the relief granted by permitting the carriers to file tariffs providing, with certain exceptions, for horizontal rate increases in official classification territory.

"It is expected that the constructive work suggested in the original report for the purpose of conserving and augmenting the net revenue of the carriers generally will be carried forward without interruption."

The Commission did not grant increases on rail-lake-and-rail and lake-and-all rates, it said, because the rail carriers, as owners of the lake lines, have already increased freight rates.

"The prevailing rates on bituminous coal and coke," the Commission said, "are renumerative, and the financial condition of the principal bituminous coal carriers is in marked contrast with that of many of the other carriers.

"Twice in the not distant past the rates on bituminous coal have been increased 5 cents a ton and would seem now to be as high as may fairly be allowed."

Increases on anthracite coal and iron were denied "largely because they are before us for review in other proceedings," the commission said.

"Interstate rates to and from New England from and to points in trunk line, or Central Freight Association, territory, where necessary to preserve established relationships between points or ports in New England and between points or ports in New England and points or ports in trunk line territory, may be increased not to exceed 5 per cent.," the decision says.

"Subject to the maintenance of the established Atlantic port differences rates to and from New York may be increased not to exceed 5 per cent., and the rates to and from Portland, Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore may be increased to the extent necessary to maintain said differentials."

WHY MR. CLEMENTS DISSENTS.

In dissenting, Commissioner Clements said he regarded the action of the commission "as out of harmony with the spirit and purpose of the law and as taking a step that leads away from the sound principles necessary to conserve the ends of justice. Carriers have a right to earn all they can on the business which they can secure at just and reasonable rates. The right of the shipper to protection against the exaction of rates unreasonably high for the service performed is equally sacred."

"I am not aware," said Mr. Clements, "of any prior case in which this commission or any court has held that the need by a carrier of money was of itself proof of the reasonableness of a specific rate, or body of rates, increased to meet such need. If the legislative authority of the commission is as broad and unrestricted as this, then I must confess that I have gravely misunderstood the limitations upon our statutory authority as well as the constitutional power of Congress to delegate its constitutional power.

"It appears evident that carriers are suffering more just now for want of freight to carry than for want of higher rates. It is just as safe to phophesy that this is a temporary condition as to prophesy concerning future rates of interest and the dumping of foreign-held American railway securities on our investment markets."

The railroads are ordered to post new tariffs putting the increase into effect after ten days' notice.

## GIRL OF 14 SUPPORTED FAMILY ON $4 A WEEK

### She Pleads With Judge Not to Send Sister to Institution.

How a 14-year-old breadwinner has been supporting a family and paying the rent on a salary of $4 a week became known today when Mamie Helmar, of 950 Cantrell street, pleaded with Judge Gorman not to send her invalid sister to an institution.

The girl, who has been supporting her mother and little sisters, is busy today trying to get a better job. Her last position was in a paper box factory. Her salary was $4 a week. She has prospects of getting a better position in a few days.

For a long time hard luck has been following the Helmar family. The father died a year ago. Then Mrs. Helmar fell ill. One of the sisters is an epileptic. Recently Judge Gorman's attention was called to the case. He was about to send the girl to an institution when Mamie came forth and pleaded that he permit the sick sister to remain home until Christmas. Judge Gorman agreed.

Now the rent for the little home is due. Eviction faces the family unless the rent is paid by tomorrow.

## ACCUSED OF 20 ROBBERIES

### Man Arrested After Pawnbroker's Clerk Telephones for Police.

As a thief Joshua Faulds is accomplished, the police declare. As to diplomatic relationship with pawnbrokers, they say, his work is crude.

Magistrate Renshaw, in the Central Station, today held Faulds under $1000 bail for a further hearing. He is charged with 20 robberies. More may be placed against him.

Faulds told the pawnbroker he was helping his wife out of financial difficulties by pawning the loot. The pawnbroker sent his clerk to telephone to police headquarters and Greeby and Tucker, detectives, responded.

Faulds said he sold most of the loot to Edward Jackson, 1134 Bainbridge street. Jackson today was held under $800 bail for court on the charge of receiving stolen property.

## FOLLOWED WIFE IN DEATH

### Dr. and Mrs. R. H. Gilman Were Married Last April

Dr. Roland H. Gilman, of Williamsburg, Pa., died in Reading last night, just 48 hours after his wife had succumbed.

Each was unaware of the other's illness. Both died from pneumonia. Mrs. Gilman was taken to Reading from her Williamsburg home on Saturday. She died on Tuesday. Her husband was already in Reading.

Dr. and Mrs. Gilman were married at the Bellevue-Stratford last April and went immediately to Williamsburg. Doctor Gilman was a graduate of the Medico-Chirurgical College.

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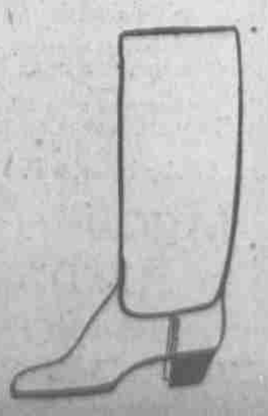

—From London Opinion.

Germany's New Arm

(It is said that German bands are accompanying the infantry attacks on the Allies.)

General—You will strike up the "Blue Danube" as soon as you get within earshot of the enemy—then, before he has time to recover, our brave soldiers will rush in and finish him.

# POLITICS ALREADY HAS PALM OUT FOR $50,000 CITY ALMS

## Charity Workers Declare Undesirables From Other Cities Will Get What Ward Heelers Leave.

The fear that improper political influences might accompany the distribution of the $50,000 appropriation for the unemployed, it was suggested today by social workers, was largely the cause of the refusal of four charity agencies to take part in the distribution.

The ordinance granting an appropriation was fathered by Common Councilman John P. Connelly. It had the support of the Organization, of which Connelly is a mouthpiece. The idea of helping the unemployed came as a pre-election appeal.

Philadelphia is the only large city which has appropriated cash funds for distribution among the unemployed. Buffalo in 1893 experimented with ordinances appropriating city money to aid the unemployed. This scheme, which had the backing of politicians, was a complete failure. The city was invaded by undesirables.

Common Councilman Connelly's ordinance, which passed Councils, is characterized by many persons as an "invitation for bums" and "hoboes from all over the country to come to Philadelphia and "climb on the band wagon." This was the view expressed by Robert D. Dripps, Common Councilman from the 22d Ward, who was the only member of Councils to vote against the appropriations.

It was learned today that long before Mayor Blankenburg reluctantly signed the measure, many applications for financial aid began to reach the different charitable organizations from out of town. The applicants had read of the $50,000 appropriation and insisted that they were entitled to a share.

Among the applicants was a police sergeant of the 28th district, who wanted a part of the $50,000 to pay three months' rent for a friend who wasn't working.

DISTRIBUTION A PUZZLE.

Just how, when and where the $50,000 will be distributed nobody seemed to know today. In the meantime offices of different charity agencies are being flooded with applicants. Yesterday a man from Connecticut made an urgent appeal for cash. The appeal was made at one of the branches of the Emergency Aid Committee.

It is probable that the Executive Committee of the Emergency Aid Committee, which has been designated to distribute the money, will hold a meeting either today or tomorrow to outline plans. Since four agencies have declined to help, efforts will be made to get other organizations to assist.

Of the 700 applicants who have asked for aid at the headquarters of the Emergency Aid Committee, according to Mayor Blankenburg's statement, 600 are already receiving aid from charitable agencies. Mayor Blankenburg has contended that the ordinance was unwise.

Secretaries of agencies said today that there was danger of "politics" becoming involved in the movement. Letters bearing the "O. K." of political lieutenants asking aid for ward heelers were looked for.

Since the Emergency Aid Committee is composed of women who have had no experience in unraveling political trickery, it was pointed out today by a prominent charity worker that it would be easy to deceive the members of that organization should ward heelers make attempts to do so. All that would be necessary would be for a ward politician to send his applicant to some reputable merchant or resident in the neighborhood where he lives and have him write a letter of recommendation.

"ONLY 25,000 IDLE IN CITY."

R. M. Little, of the Society for Organizing Charity, which has refused to participate in the movement launched by Connelly and supported by his political henchmen, said today:

"We shall have nothing to do with the distribution of the money granted by Councils. There is no question in my mind but what the prominent ladies of the Emergency Aid Committee mean to do well. As for the unemployed in this city, I believe that if a police canvass was made it would be found that there are not more than 25,000 idle bread winners in this city."

The other charity agencies which have refused to aid in the distribution of the money granted by Councils are the United Hebrew Charities, the Union Benevolent Society and the Home Missionary Society.

A meeting of 36 representatives of leading charity agencies from 16 cities was held in New York last October. At that conference the idea of councilmanic bodies granting appropriations was discussed. It was decided that it was a bad policy.

## $107,500 LEFT TO FAMILY

### Will of Joseph Silverwood Admitted to Probate.

The $107,500 estate of Joseph Silverwood, merchant, who died December 5 at 420 Green lane, Roxborough, will be divided among two daughters, Emma and Anna Silverwood, and two sons, William and Walter, and grandchildren, according to the will of the testator admitted to probate today. The two sons are named executors of the estate.

Other wills probated today are those of Dr. James A. Wamsley, who died in the German Hospital, leaving an estate of $31,000; Charles C. Slack, 4660 Wyoming avenue, $14,500; Rosa W. Meredith, 3113 Diamond street, $12,800; J. Frank Dunmore, Stockyard Hotel, 30th and Race streets, $10,200; August Remy, 442 South 56th street, $8000; Kressing Gramer, Germantown Hospital, $2400.

Personal property of Emma L. Forrest has been appraised at $29,445.59; Florence K. Stokes, $14,717.92.

## ARRESTED AT CHURCH

### Youth Accused of Stealing From West Philadelphia Butcher.

Twenty-seven dollars in small change jingling in the pockets of Edward Loney, 100 North 25th street, and George Ellinger, 1324 Filbert street, led to their arrest, when they were seen trying the doors of the Asbury Church, 23d and Chestnut streets, early today.

According to the police, both admitted taking the money from William Droll, a butcher, at 2305 Chestnut street, where Ellinger is employed. Magistrate Harris held them under $600 bail each this morning. Both are 18 years old.

Shirts, scarfs, hosiery, gloves, full dress accessories, Angora jackets, robes and gowns, canes, etc.

*We choose from the best the markets of the world provide. Our styles are always the latest and most approved and our offerings bear the quality stamp of the best manufacturers in each line.*

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# SUNDAY'S SERMON ON "WAY TO HEAVEN" WINS 450 PERSONS

## Men and Women of All Classes in "Glory Row" After Thrilling Service at Des Moines.

DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 18.—Evangelist Billy Sunday pointed out the road to Heaven last night to 450 persons who "hit the sawdust trail." It was one of the greatest meetings the evangelist has held since his coming to Des Moines. His sermon was on the subject of "Heaven and How to Get There." Tonight he will preach on "Hell and How to Get There."

The 30-minute after-service was the most thrilling the people here have heard. An audience that completely packed the tabernacle cheered and applauded as 200 high school students found their way to "glory row." Each trail hitter was applauded, while the evangelist beamed as he has not done before during the local meetings. It was a cosmopolitan crowd that found seats on "glory row," professional and business men, laborers and students, women of leisure, office girls, clerks, waitresses and factory workers. Sunday told them he was "mighty proud of them all."

During the early part of the services a man became overenthusiastic and leaped to his feet.

"I'm for you, Bill!" he cried.

"If I get to heaven before Nell (his wife) and the children," Sunday said early in his sermon, "I think I'll walk up and shake hands with Jesus and say, 'Lord, if it's all the same, I'd just like to hang around the gate and wait for my loved ones down there on earth,' and, he continued, "I'm sure Jesus will say: 'Sure, Bill, sit right down.'"

Then he flopped into a chair, buried his face in his hands and showed his audience just how he will keep his vigil by the gateway of heaven until "Nell and the children" shall have winged their way through the entrance.

"And if Nell and the children get there first, I'm sure they will wait at the gate for me. She'll ask me how things were when I left. I'll say, 'Oh, drilling along the same as usual, everybody going to hell so fast you can't see them for the dust'; and when I ask where my mansion is, the Lord will say, 'Right over there on Grand avenue, Bill, among the swells.'"

"Hallelujah!" he cried, and the 10,000 smiled, many of them through their tears.

It was the hardest work the evangelist had done during the campaign, with the possible exception of the afternoon and evening he delivered his famous sermon on "Booze." He was near the breaking point when he left the tabernacle, but he promised to be in trim for another hot shot at the devil this afternoon and again tonight.

### SENT TO JAIL FOR 25 YEARS

#### Court Sentences Negroes Guilty of Assault and Robbery.

Elwood Ruley, 18 years old, and John H. Cobbs, 27 years, both Negroes, were convicted of felonious assault and robbery today in Quarter Sessions Court and sentenced by Judge Davis to serve 25 years each in the county prison. Judge Davis characterized them as "brutes."

The assault, for which 15 years each was imposed, occurred on the evening of November 14 near Merion avenue and Pine street, when Lena Smith, 15 years old, 433 North 62d street, was attacked by the men, and her escort, Andrew McLoughlin, of Highland Park, Delaware County, was robbed. Ten years each was the sentence for robbery.

Harry Miles and Perry Brown, also Negroes, were sentenced to 14 months each for participating in the robbery. They were witnesses for the Commonwealth.

### Urges Prohibition Amendment

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. — "There are thousands of people in the United States who believe the Constitution is an agreement with death and a covenant with evil because it has failed to make any provision for prohibition," declared Senator Shepard today in the Senate. Senator Shepard, who, with Representative Hobson, is author of the resolution providing for a Federal amendment to the Constitution granting nation-wide prohibition, was addressing the Senate on the prohibition question.

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| Diamond LaVallieres. | 35.00 " 2250.00 | Diamond Earrings ... | 15.00 " 4000.00 |
| Diamond Brooches... | 20.00 " 2100.00 | Diamond Studs ..... | 12.00 " 230.00 |
| Diamond Bar Pins... | 80.00 " 725.00 | Diamond Lockets ... | 13.50 " 395.00 |
| Diamond Bracelets .. | 12.00 " 725.00 | Diamond Necklaces.. | 1125.00 " 15,000.00 |
| Diamond Links ..... | 20.00 " 500.00 | Pearl Necklaces .... | 75.00 " 3500.00 |

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