

PROBLEMS OF SHIPPING BOARD

Doubts Federal Body Knows Business and Is Gloomy Over Prospects

HITS PRODUCTION COST
George E. Sproule, secretary of the commissioners of navigation of this port, doubts whether the United States Shipping Board knows much about the intricacies of the shipping business.

In a statement today Mr. Sproule says the United States can not continue profitably in the shipping business unless we change our maritime laws, reduce the cost of building our ships, and establish a national ship subsidy.

England, Mr. Sproule declares, is building and operating ships at half the cost prevailing here. Our shipping has grown and prospered, he points out, only because of abnormally high freight rates. When they fall, Mr. Sproule sees only disaster for American shipping unless we make provisions to meet the competition of normal times.

Sproule's statement follows in part: "One of the most important subjects before the American people is the rehabilitation and maintenance of the shipping industry. It is paid dearly for the position which we found ourselves at the breaking out of the war, possessed of only 1,376,800 gross tons of shipping, suitable for overseas commerce.

Pessimistic Over Outlook
In the year preceding the war but 8 per cent of the world's foreign trade was carried in American bottoms. If the shipping board is carried out we will soon have 12,000,000 deadweight tons of shipping. There are so many difficulties to be overcome in order that our ships may be profitably engaged in the foreign trade, that practical men are rather pessimistic concerning the outlook.

It is patent to every one that with the present rates of freight American ships will not be able to compete with the overseas trade, but what will be the result when rates assume again the normal? "Experienced shipping men are rather discouraged over the way in which the ships are now being operated by the United States shipping board, and, indeed, I regret to say that this body has not the public confidence. It is often questioned whether any study of the intricacies of the shipping business has been made by this body, and certainly their actions do not indicate it.

Clear Enormous Freight Increase
As Mr. Hurley has said, we now have quite a number of American ships employed in the foreign trade, but it is to be wondered if when there is a shortage of tonnage here, as in the case of the American liner, it is not normal times three shillings (seventy-five cents) a barrel? It should be regarded as a fair rate of freight.

The same conditions prevail in all other branches of the foreign trade. "Mr. Hurley is encouraged by the fact that the American flag is now seen on the seven seas of the world, but this is not remarkable, and such will be the case just as long as the freight rates are maintained at the present high figures.

"We are constantly reminded by the shipping board of the time when in the United States was such a factor in the foreign trade, but it is not stated that this was all due to the fact that in the early fifties, when our merchant marine was at the height of its glory, our ships were produced by our keener competitor, Great Britain. These were days when we maintained a supremacy not only of the western ocean trade, but of the entire world's shipping, and our wool trades. Today the reverse is the condition.

DR. J. R. DAVIES, CLERGYMAN, FORMER PASTOR OF BETHLEHEM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Declined Pacific Coast Pulpit to Retain Clerical Activities Here

THE REV. DR. J. R. DAVIES, former pastor of Bethlehem Presbyterian Church. He died today.

WOMEN WELCOME 100 ALIENS AS CITIZENS
Hospitality Must Not Be Abused, Judge Warns, at Philomusian Club

Hundreds of persons assembled last night at the Philomusian Club, 2841 Walnut street, to welcome one hundred new citizens, who received their certificates of citizenship.

A fine, sturdy and intelligent looking lot of them they were as they marched, one by one, to receive their citizenship certificates from George H. Bickel, clerk of the United States District Court, one hundred names the audience heartily applauded as each recipient took his oath, the seal of consent with this country.

At the same time it becomes the duty of Americans to assist in the absorption of the foreign-born into the life of the country, and to encourage them to become citizens of this country. "The object of Americanization," said Mrs. Hancock, "is the union of many people into one nation, with the use of the English language throughout that nation, and the adoption of American standards of living and American ideals by every resident in the country.

"The United States has been a republic now for nearly 150 years," Judge Thompson said. "Our Government has been a democracy; it has proved itself better than any yet tried. On the whole, people are happier here than in any other country, the proof of which is that every year people come here from all countries, whereas Americans emigrate very little. Our ancestors defended this country; the newer citizens have done so likewise; and our newest citizens must do the same.

"Our hospitality is open to all who come here for the better opportunities of living and the education of their children, but it is not to be abused. If you come as a guest to a man you would not think you had the right to take his house down because it did not suit you.

Singing, moving pictures, in which the struggles of the early settlers were shown, and the "Star Spangled Banner" sung by the audience joined, concluded the evening.

SALONKEEPER HELD IN POLICE SLAYING
Patrolman James Hess Fatally Wounded by Own Pistol. Say Probers

Patrolman James Hess, of the Fifteenth street and Snyder avenue station, died in the St. Agnes Hospital last night, the result of a bullet fired from his own revolver. A saloonkeeper, it is alleged, fired the fatal shot.

PENDULUM'S SWINGS BACK, AND JERSEY TOWN IS GLAD

"Vengeance" Shouts Awakened Barrington, Benefiting by Zone Trolley Fare Plan Proposed, Unmindful of Calls for Aid From Haddon Heights and Other Neighbors

Barrington, N. J., awakened by the noise, rubbed its sleepy eyes. "Wake up," said the Heights, Audubon, and Collingswood and other small towns outside of Camden: "Help us protest against the zone-fare plan of the Public Service Railway Company."

That was it. Barrington, heedless of the reason was explained thus: Barrington gets a two-cent reduction under the plan. Lawnside, the next town, pays one cent less, while Magnolia will still get one cent, and from its share of the same price, fourteen cents.

Barrington station is in the far corner of Haddon Heights borough. When the trolley company was given the right-of-way to double track its line through Barrington, it was with the understanding that the then existing five-cent fare limit should be extended to the borough.

Barrington had the five-cent fare for a few days some years ago. Then Haddon Heights got busy and back went the fare to the zone-fare plan. Barrington was over the three-quarters of a mile run to the borough limit of Haddon Heights, or, in other words, to Barrington.

Two weeks ago a committee from Barrington appeared before the borough Council of Haddon Heights and asked them to state their position with respect to the single fare for Barrington. Mayor Burtis was a member of the Council of the Haddon Heights Council, frankly told the committee they were opposed to any change. Their business interests, he said, were in the Heights.

Now the tables are turned somewhat. Haddon Heights might have to pay an eleven-cent fare and Haddon Heights citizens are doing the kicking against it. Barrington, on the other hand, is "resting on its oars." That town will benefit by the zone plan, and its citizens favor it, providing the first zone limit for five cents is extended, which means a further reduction. At the present time commutation fares are four cents less than the fourteen-cent trolley fare to Barrington.

Camden County is mobilizing to protest against the zone-fare plan. A hearing to be held in Newark on March 26. Under the direction of Mayor Ellis, of Camden, the Chamber of Commerce, and Real Estate Board, a public demonstration will be held in Camden. All towns whose rates go up under the "five cents for the first mile and one cent for each additional mile" Monday night and were reported out of committee Wednesday after the first fractional row of the session.

Unless Republican leaders interfere in the interest of harmony, one of the old-time rows, such as market, the other in the House. Vore members take the same stand on the Brady bills as they took on the charter revision measures two years ago. Several resolutions were introduced by factional motives.

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ROW ON CHARTER BILLS IMPENDING

Exciting Legislature Skirmishes Also Promised on Liquor Question

RURAL MEN IMPATIENT
High Living Cost Perturbs the Country Members, Who Insist on Adjournment

Some action on the Philadelphia charter bills which have been slumbering in the Senate Municipal Affairs Committee since their introduction, two weeks ago, by Senator Woodward, is anticipated when the Legislature reconvenes next week.

No move for a hearing has been made, and precious time has been wasted as a result of this inactivity. The demand for action was voiced by George W. Coles at the meeting of the charter committee Thursday. It developed that the failure to request a hearing had been due to a misunderstanding.

In contrast to the inactivity relative to the charter bills was the quick work of the Finance Committee to revise the registration laws and simplify voting. The three bills were introduced by Representative Brady, of Philadelphia, on Monday night and were reported out of committee Wednesday after the first fractional row of the session.

Vare members of the House Elections committee strenuously opposed bringing out the measure, but their opposition was voted down by the Penrose majority in the committee. The bills will appear on the floor of the House on Monday night and the fight which started in the committee is expected to be carried to the floor of the House.

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TEACHERS AIMING TO RAISE STATUS

Salary Boosts Only a Side Issue of School Labor Union Here

PLATFORM ANNOUNCED
Complete Charter Will Be Drafted at Mass-Meeting March 28

Seven Issues Embodied in Platform Proposed
Platform issues embodied in new labor union among school teachers here: Minimum salary of \$1000 for all teachers. A teacher member of all boards of education.

An advisory council elected among teachers to consult with school administrative officers. A similar advisory council in each school. Teachers to be urged in democratic procedure toward pupils, so that realization of responsibility of the individual may become apparent in early life.

The school to become in spirit and actually a part of the community, co-operating with civic organizations, affording meeting places for the public, providing for instruction in industrial history, economic study, etc. A high standard of teaching efficiency to be maintained in normal and other training schools for teachers, and all appointments of teachers be made probationary, so that efficiency be guaranteed.

To raise their status in every way, salaries being only a side issue, is the object of men and women teachers in the public schools of Philadelphia who are preparing an organization which has adopted the platform of the American Federation of Teachers. It expects shortly to become incorporated with the American Federation of Labor.

The charter of this organization is now being constructed, and as a march being held on the 28th of March at the New Century Club, every teacher in this city will be asked to become a member of the union. The object is to raise the status of the teacher in every way, an increase in salary, being only one of the issues.

The work of organization was stated five weeks ago by one of the teachers of this city, and the movement has become generally popular. Already it has enrolled a number of charter members. Each Friday for the last five weeks meetings have been held at the Philadelphia Women's Trade Union League, and last week 1000 copies of educational literature were distributed among the last.

Next night plans for the mass-meeting were arranged by the committee of charter members and it was announced that several nationally known speakers are expected at the meeting. These include Miss A. M. H. of Chicago, the American Federation of Teachers, Chicago. It was also announced that the charter would be ready for endorsement at that time.

"Why should we not organize?" asked one of the teachers at the meeting last evening. "In every other large city of the country the teachers have formed some sort of union so that they may be protected against just the sort of a system which exists here, where the teacher is regarded as a sort of an inferior being and not a force in the community at all. Only last week the entire faculty of the University of Illinois organized and joined the Teachers' Federation."

Lawyer Clears Wilkins
Says Detectives Absolve Him in Murder of His Wife

Dies at 100 Amid Antiques
Baltimore, Md., March 15.—(By A. P.)—Miss Ann Carson Perine, who celebrated her 100th anniversary January 29 last, died yesterday in her town house in Cathedral street, which was built seventy years ago. Her home, she said, was a long distance from Baltimore, and now in the city, is more than 200 years old and filled with rare antiques, relics and heirlooms of two centuries. While several members of the Perine family lived to be octogenarians, Miss Ann Perine was the only centenarian.

Westphalian Unrest Grows
British Bridgehead May Be Enlarged in That Direction

WOMEN TO AID JOBLESS
100 Form Organization and Seek Funds for Soldiers

Men Decorate Women From Here
Miss Lillian Pettengill and Mrs. Leona Lehman of Philadelphia have been decorated by the French Government for their work in stamping out a typhoid epidemic at Le Mans, France.