

RAILROADS LOSE FREIGHT RATE WAR

Interstate Commerce Commission Forbids Increase.

MUST RETURN TO OLD RATES

Increased Tariffs by Both Eastern and Western Lines Must Be Withdrawn After March 10.

The interstate commerce commission has decided against the railroads in the important increased freight rates cases that have been pending for several months.

The decision of the commission is sweeping beyond all anticipation, even by the shippers. It declines to allow a single increase by the 600 or more railroads in the east and the middle west.

It throws aside as unsubstantiated the contention of the railroads that they must have increased revenues to meet the increased cost of equipment and operation, and by its decision cuts off between \$50,000,000 and \$60,000,000 a year in revenue which the railroads had expected to realize from the proposed increase. On the other hand, it means an annual saving of that amount to the shippers of the country.

The commission orders the carriers to cancel the proposed increases by March 10, and notifies them that in the event of failure an order will be entered continuing the present rates for two years, thus preventing the carriers from making any changes in that period. The railroads may now appeal to the newly created commerce court, and it is the opinion of many of their lawyers that this step will be taken.

The text of the decision says, with reference to the eastern roads:

"We dislike to tie up by hard and fast orders these commodity rates, and we have concluded as to all the rates involved in this proceeding to simply require the defendants to cancel on or before March 10 their advanced tariffs on file and restore their former rates, which are the rates now in effect. If this requirement is not complied with the proposed rates will be suspended, the necessary findings of fact made, and the usual two years' order issued as to all tariffs involved."

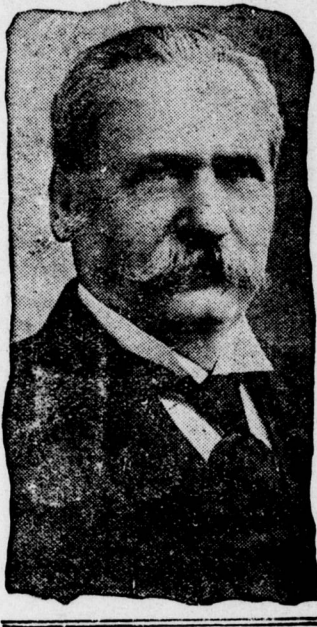
In the western the decision says: "We do not say that the carriers may not increase their income. We trust they may and confidently believe they will. If the time does come when, through changed conditions, it may be shown that their fears are realized or approaching realization, and from a survey of the whole field of operations there is evidence of a movement that makes against the security and lasting value of legitimate investment and an adequate return upon the value of these properties this commission will not hesitate to give its sanction to increases which will be reasonable."

"It is the law that tariff rates shall be just and reasonable and alike to all for like railroad service."

"In construing this law the courts have given general direction in a number of cases and by all standards that have been set this commission, all of its members concurring, finds the proposed rates to be beyond the limitations placed by law upon the carriers. We shall ask the carriers to withdraw the proposed tariffs forthwith through their agents and attorneys in fact, who have filed them. If such action is not taken on or before March 10, 1911, the commission will further suspend these rates, make an appropriate finding and issue an order directing the maintenance of the present rates for a period of two years from that date."

JUDSON C. CLEMENTS.

Georgia Democrat Who is Head of Interstate Commerce Commission.



Five Burned to Death.

Supposed to have been caused by the explosion of a lamp during the night, two houses at Onelda, near Hazleton, Pa., occupied by Gabriel Gerotsky and Michael Slovak, Hungarians, were burned and five members of the Gerotsky family lost their lives in the flames.

Gabriel Gerotsky, the father; his daughters, Annie, twelve years old, and Mary, aged eight years, and his sons, Michael four years old, and Gabriel, two years old, were burned to death. Mrs. Gerotsky and John, a crippled son, escaped.

The crippled boy was awakened from his sleep by the crackling of the flames. He and his mother went downstairs to investigate, but could see no fire, and returned to the second floor to go back to bed.

When they reached the top of the stairs the flames, which originated in the Slovak home, had eaten their way through to their home and shut off the sleeping members of the Gerotsky family and they could not be reached.

The Slovak family was awakened in time and escaped from their home in safety.

Big Landslide In Panama Canal.

Without warning and upsetting all theories and all estimates, 500,000 cubic yards of rock and earth slid into the Pioneer cut, just opposite the town of Culebra, in the Panama canal. It is one of the worst slides the canal commission engineers have had to contend with, and it is worse than any previous slide from the fact that the others could be explained, even were predicted.

The latest slanche of dirt changes canal plans materially. It makes it seem necessary that the entire prism shall be enlarged sufficiently to prevent any recurrence of the sort after the completion of the canal. There seems to be no doubt that all of Gold Hill will have to be removed, in itself a considerable undertaking. And 335,000 yards of the slide itself represents waste.

His Heart Split In Two.

A Hungarian baker, named Kavaro, first name unknown, died suddenly at his home in New York.

The man's body was sent to the morgue and Dr. O'Hanlon found that the man's heart had split in two.

Dr. O'Hanlon says that this proves that those who say a person cannot die of a broken heart are wrong. He found loss of tone in the muscular tissues due to insufficient blood supply. A strong emotion might cause the break in the heart in this condition. Kavaro was sixty years old.

SENATE REJECTS DIRECT ELECTION

Votes Down Resolution to Amend Constitution.

DEFEATED BY "LAME DUCKS"

Members Whose Terms Expire With This Congress Voted Against Popular Election of United States Senators.

United States senators will not be elected by a direct vote of the people. The resolution to submit to the states an amendment to the constitution providing for a direct vote was defeated in the senate.

Nearly all of the senators whose terms expire with this congress, generally known as "lame ducks," voted against the resolution.

Fifty-four senators voted for the resolution and thirty-three voted against it. A two-thirds vote, or in this case fifty-eight, is required to pass a resolution for a constitutional amendment.

Following is the way the senators voted:

Yeas—Bailey, Beveridge, Borah, Bourne, Bradley, Briggs, Bristow, Brown, Burkett, Burton, Carter, Chamberlain, Clapp, Clark (Wyoming), Clarke (Arkansas), Culberson, Culom, Cummins, Curtis, Davis, Dixon, Dupont, Frye, Gamble, Gore, Gronna, Guggenheim, Jones, LaFollette, McCumber, Martin, Nelson, Newlands, Nixon, Overman, Owen, Paynter, Perkins, Piles, Rayner, Shively, Simmons, Smith (Maryland), Smith (Michigan), Smith (South Carolina), Stephenson, Stone, Sutherland, Swanson, Saylor, Thornton, Warner, Watson, Young Total, 54.

Nays—Bacon, Bankhead, Brandegee, Bulkeley, Burnham, Burrows, Crane, Depew, Dick, Dillingham, Fletcher, Flint, Foster, Gallinger, Hale, Heyburn, Johnston, Kean, Lodge, Lorimer, Money, Oliver, Page, Penrose, Percy, Richardson, Root, Scott, Smoot, Talliferro, Tillman, Warren, Wetmore. Total, 33.

Senator Gallinger at first voted aye, but later said it was an inadvertence and asked to be recorded in the negative.

The absentees were Senators Aldrich, Crawford, Frazier and Terrell, of Georgia. It was announced that had they been present Frazier would have voted aye, Terrell nay. There was no announcement about Senator Aldrich.

Senator Crawford entering after the roll call was complete, said he had been delayed by a stalled street car and would have voted aye. This would have made the maximum vote possible for the resolution fifty-six.

When the resolution was declared lost there was no demonstration, but from the Democratic side on the floor there were several modulated calls of "Good! Good!" The Sutherland amendment had made the measure unpopular with some of the far southern senators.

Senator Borah, who has been in charge of the resolution, was gratified over the result.

"While," he said, "I would like very much to have had four more votes, yet I am gratified with the results. When it is demonstrated that the senate stands within four of two-thirds, it is certain that the real fight is over."

"The resolution will be again introduced at the next session of congress, regular or extraordinary, and urged unremittently. The friends of the measure may rest assured that the subject will not be permitted to be forgotten. The next congress, in my judgment, will pass favorably on the resolution."

GORE BRIBERY FAILS

House Finds No Evidence In Indian Land Cases.

The house committee which investigated Senator Gore's charges of attempted bribery in connection with J. P. McMurray's Indian attorney contract in Oklahoma, made its final report to the house.

The committee found no evidence to show McMurray was involved.

Girl Given \$10,000 Heart Balm.

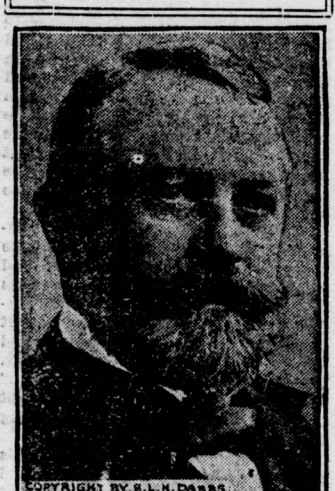
Miss Henrietta French, the pretty South Dakota girl, who sued David H. Decker, Jr., a wealthy young civil engineer, for breach of promise of marriage has been awarded a verdict of \$10,000 by a jury in the supreme court in New York. Justice Erlanger reserved decision on a motion to set the verdict aside, declaring it was "extremely excessive."

Girl Student a Suicide.

Lena Gebhardt, seventeen years of age, a member of the senior class at the Englewood, N. J., high school, died a victim of a bullet which she admitted firing herself. Her eyes were falling and she was afraid she would not be able to graduate.

HENRY C. FRICK.

Pittsburg Millionaire Offers \$500,000 For "The Mill."



FRICK MAY GET COSTLY REMBRANDT

Offers Half Million Dollars For "The Mill."

It is reported in London that H. C. Frick is the American who offered \$500,000 for Lord Lansdowne's famous Rembrandt, "The Mill."

Lord Lansdowne has had several offers for this picture and P. A. B. Widener went up to \$350,000, but without avail.

It is said Lord Lansdowne has offered the National Gallery the option of taking the picture at the price offered by Mr. Frick.

Sir Charles Holroyd, director of the National Gallery, said that the marquis had offered the nation the refusal of the work and promised \$25,000 towards its purchase. Sir Charles, however, despaired of raising the sum necessary unless some millionaire was prepared to pay the bulk of the sum, as in the recent case of Holbein's "Duchess of Milan," when \$250,000 was given by an anonymous contributor. It is said that an American collector has offered \$500,000 for "The Mill."

WOMAN'S BITES KILL NURSE

Blood Poisoning Follows Lacerations by Maniac's Teeth.

Miss Lillian Light, a professional nurse, who for some time was a district nurse in Lebanon, Pa., died at her home from blood poisoning, resulting from being bitten by a demented woman, Mrs. John Kilmoviski, whom she was nursing.

Miss Light was bitten in the chest and on her hands and arms, ending in blood poisoning, due probably to her run-down condition from overwork. A sister, Mrs. John Roberts, lives in Philadelphia.

CHEESE KILLED HIM

Farm Hand Ate a Pound and Died of Acute Indigestion.

William Thomas, a farm hand, who was employed at Gardnertown, near Newburgh, N. Y., and who evidently had taken the advice of Secretary of Agriculture Wilson to eat lots of cheese, came to Newburgh, bought a pound of cheese and, returning to the farm, made a meal off it with some crackers.

It resulted in an attack of acute indigestion, and before medical assistance could be secured he was dead. Thomas was thirty years old.

SWANSON REAPPOINTED

U. S. Senator Will Serve Until Virginia Legislature Meets.

Governor Mann, of Virginia, has reappointed Senator Claude A. Swanson, now filling the unexpired term of the late Senator Daniel.

This reappointment is to cover the period between the expiration of Senator Swanson's commission on March 4 to thirty days after the next meeting of the state legislature.

Death Ends "Playing Doctor."

Katharine, the nine-months-old daughter of John Falstick, of Allentown, Pa., died from a dose of carbolic acid. The children of the family had "played doctor" and gave her the poison.

U. S. Cruiser Ordered to Haiti.

The United States scout cruiser Birmingham was ordered from Mobile, Ala., to Port au Prince, Haiti, where she will replace the gunboat Dolphin and observe developments in the unsettled condition of affairs in that republic.

KILLS MOTHER, BOY AND SELF

Woman Driven Insane by Death of Her Sister.

GAVE POISON IN WATER

Driven Insane by Grief Over Death of Sister, Miss Jeanette Lewis Gave Parent and Nephew Cyanide—Police Suspect Suicide Pact.

Jeanette Lewis, twenty-five years of age, of Philadelphia, placed some cyanide of potassium into a glass of water and then induced her mother and her nephew, Edward Milden, Jr., nine years old, to take a drink from it. Both died instantly. Then Miss Lewis drained a glass of the poisoned water.

The murders and the suicide occurred at the Lewis home, 57 West Philena street, Germantown, in the heart of the fashionable suburban district.

The motive for the crime, the police say, was melancholia over the death of a sister, the mother of Edward Milden, Jr., who died in the German hospital, following an operation for gall stones.

It is said the police have information that Mrs. Lewis entered into a suicide pact with her daughter. According to the report, when the boy rushed into the bathroom Sarah Polhamus, the maid, went to his assistance, the child still held the glass containing the poison in his hand. Miss Polhamus tried to take the glass from the boy, but his grandmother, who staggered after him, cried: "No, let him drink it! Let him drink it!"

It was also said that Mrs. Lewis tried to find the eight-months-old baby of Mrs. Milden, with the intention of poisoning it, but she was unable to accomplish her purpose, because the infant was on the third floor in custody of its nurse.

Miss Lewis was devoted to her married sister, and during the latter's illness in the Germantown hospital she was daily at Mrs. Milden's bedside. An operation was performed, and it was thought at first that Mrs. Milden would survive. Monday she suffered a relapse and died.

When word was sent to the Milden home Miss Lewis became almost frenzied in her grief. Her brother-in-law, himself struggling under the burden of his sorrow, sought in vain to soothe her. Miss Lewis refused to go to her room, and through the hours of the night until daylight she walked about the house wailing. "My sister is dead; she is dead!"

Telephones For Poison.

After the sorrow stricken family had partaken of breakfast Miss Lewis went to the telephone and called the drug store of Dr. C. D. Lowe.

According to Dr. Lowe the young woman represented herself as Florence Snyder, the trained nurse in charge of the infant. She said that she wanted an ounce of cyanide of potassium and would send for it. When asked the reason she replied that she wanted the poison for medicinal purposes.

To dissolve the drug it would have been necessary to soak it in water for a long time or else pulverize it. It is believed that when Miss Lewis received the drug she must have gone into some room unobserved and there crushed the crystals into a powder. Undetected she then emptied the pulverized poison into a glass of water.

By some artifice she induced the nine-year-old boy, who was nicknamed "Peach," to take a sip of the drugged water. Then on another pretext she handed the glass to her mother and watched her take a drink

of the lethal potion. When she saw that the powerful drug was having its effect upon her nephew and mother, she went to her own room. She lay down upon the bed and drained the glass of all but a few drops.

The first intimation of the grim tragedy was given to Sarah Polhamus. She was cleaning in the bathroom on the second floor when the little boy, gasping and apparently in agony, staggered into the room.

Grandmother and Boy Fall Dead.

"Peach! Peach! What is the matter?" she cried. The boy was unable to make reply. As Sarah Polhamus advanced to help the child, his grandmother, suffering intensely and exhibiting the same symptoms as "Peach," followed him into the room. The domestic reached for a glass of water, but before she could place it to the child's lips he fell to the floor unconscious. The girl turned to Mrs. Lewis, but she, too, lay limp on the floor.

The domestic ran into the hall and shouted: "Miss Lewis, where are you? Your mother has fainted." There was no response, and the girl rushed into Miss Lewis' room, where she was found unconscious upon the bed and apparently dead.

Mr. Milden was in the parlor on the first floor and Miss Snyder, the nurse, was on the third floor. Both hurried to the second floor in response to the cries of the terrified domestic.

Mr. Milden, not realizing that the three were dead, rushed to the drug store and cried out to Dr. Lowe that three members of his family had fainted. He asked the druggist to return to the house with him. The two hurried back to the house, and Dr. Lowe, upon seeing the bodies, realized that they had been poisoned.

Nine Slain In Indian Fight.

In a battle sixty miles west of Tuscarora, Nev., eight Indians and a policeman were killed and other members of an Indian band were captured. The battle took place at Kelly creek, Humboldt county, twenty-five miles north of Golconda.

Sees Her First Snow.

Six-year-old Catherine Kugler, of San Antonio, Tex., has come to live with the family of former Congressman V. E. Gugler in Woodbury, N. J. The little miss never saw snow before until she came east, and thought it would make a nice icing for cake.

Dr. H. W. Wiley Weds.

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, of pure food fame, acquired as chief of the bureau of chemistry, and Miss Anna Campbell Kelton, the daughters of the late General Joseph C. Kelton, U. S. A., were married in Washington.

House Passes Appropriation Bills.

Three appropriation bills, authorizing expenditures in excess of \$142,000,000, were passed in jigtime by the house of representatives. The measures were the naval bill, the diplomatic bill and the fortifications bill.

GENERAL MARKETS

PHILADELPHIA — FLOUR weak; winter clear, \$3.50@3.75; city mills, fancy, \$5.25@5.75.

RYE FLOUR firm; at \$4@4.15 per barrel.

WHEAT steady; No. 2 red, new, 90@91c.

CORN steady; No. 2 yellow, 51½@52c.

OATS dull; No. 2 white, 36@36½c.; lower grades, 35½c.

POULTRY: Live steady; hens, 16@16½c.; old roosters, 11@11½c. Dressed steady; choice fowls, 17c.; old roosters, 13c.

BUTTER steady; extra creamery, 28c. per lb.

EGGS firm; selected, 19@22c.; nearby, 18c.; western, 18c.

POTATOES firm; 60@65c. bushel.

Live Stock Markets.

PITTSBURG (Union Stock Yards)—CATTLE slow; choice, \$6.25@6.50; prime, \$6@6.25.

SHEEP steady; prime wethers, \$4.00@4.80; culls and common, \$2.50@3.50; lambs, \$5@6.25; veal calves, \$9.50@10.

HOGS lower; prime heavies, \$7; mediums, \$7.40; heavy Yorkers, \$7.40@7.45; light Yorkers and pigs, \$7.55@7.60; roughs, \$6@6.40.

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