

COFFEE TRUST INQUIRY ASKED

Congressman Norris Would Have Investigation Made.

OFFERS TWO RESOLUTIONS.

Asks If President and Attorney General Have Investigated—J. P. Morgan & Co. Said to Have Arranged With Brazil for Coffee Control.

Washington, Feb. 24.—Congressman George W. Norris of the Fifth Nebraska district introduced two sweeping resolutions in the house, calling upon the state department and the attorney general to inform congress what can be done to relieve the people of the country from the so called coffee trust, which, Norris alleges, is so powerful



CONGRESSMAN NORRIS.

that no ordinary means will reach it and that by reason of this "trust" the United States is the chief victim of its operations.

The resolutions assert the existence of monopolistic control of the coffee market by a Brazilian producing interest, and Americans and Europeans interested with them, and call upon the president and the attorney general of the United States to report whether any investigation of the matter has been instituted by the government. The action was taken without remark and the resolutions went automatically to a committee.

Affect Coffee Market.

The resolutions attracted no attention in the house, and Washington heard with considerable surprise that rumors of their introduction had in some degree affected the New York coffee market.

It is hardly likely that either committee will report the resolutions at this late day in the session but Norris, under the existing suspension of the rules, could seek to have them taken up in the house if, after a reasonable time, the committees fail to act upon them.

Norris said he had been looking into the subject for some time and that he had the names of those who he said had entered into the arrangement with Brazil for the coffee control. J. P. Morgan & Co. and the City National and the First National bank of New York city, he said, constituted the American end of "the great scheme that has financed the deal."

Big Capital Involved.

This interest, Norris said, involved \$75,000,000 of capital, of which \$25,000,000 each was subscribed in London and France, \$10,000,000 each in America and Germany and \$5,000,000 in Holland.

The scheme, as Norris outlined it, was that the state of Sao Paulo issue \$25,000,000 of 5 per cent bonds, of which this foreign syndicate took up. Brazil guaranteed these bonds and provided a surtax of 5 francs a bag, which the agreement provided was to be remitted to these interests in the bond syndicate, and provided for a committee of seven men, six of whom were to be selected by the financiers in the syndicate and one by the Brazilian government itself, the committee to control the sale and disposition of the coffee from Brazil.

CUMMINS CALLS FOR FACTS

Move of Iowa Senator Foreshadows Fight Over Reciprocity.

Washington, Feb. 24.—A resolution calling on the president to submit to the senate all the information he has bearing on the Canadian reciprocity agreement, together with the data and statistics gathered by the tariff board, was offered in the senate by Cummins and adopted. An amendment making the request "if consistent with the public welfare" was adopted.

That a determined effort will be made on the floor of the senate to amend the McCall bill and that the movement will receive the support of a considerable number of Republicans, both regulars and insurgents, became apparent after Cummins' resolution had been submitted.

Educators Meet in Mobile.

Mobile, Feb. 24.—The National Education association, department of superintendents, convened here with approximately 800 educators present from all parts of the United States. The convention will remain in session until tomorrow afternoon.

New Rulers of India Have Long Been Friendly

BETTER times probably are dawning for the empire of India, where 300,000,000 of the subjects of King George, representing every conceivable race and creed, live and have their being. The reason for hoping for better times is found in the fact that the two men who will have most to say about the government of the swarming millions are close friends and are not likely to have clashes that will retard the progress of reforms and interfere with the administration of the government.

India is governed primarily from London by the secretary of state for India, though the viceroy of India, who is stationed in Calcutta, naturally has an important voice in Indian affairs. Lord Crewe is the new secretary of state for India, having recently suc-



LORD CREWE.

ceeded Lord Morley of Blackburn. Sir Charles Hardinge is the new viceroy of India.

These men were classmates at Harrow and at Trinity college, Cambridge, and have long been intimate friends. Each of them is renowned for fact, and there is hardly a chance that they will not be able to do their work without any dispute of authority.

Heretofore when the viceroy has been a man of strong character, like Lord Curzon, for instance, he has represented the authority and influence of the secretary of state. Being on the ground, he believed that he was better fitted to decide questions of governmental policy, and when he was not allowed to do so he usually made such a vigorous kick that his resignation was forced. This resignation was usually regarded by the natives of India as a disgrace.

On the other hand, a secretary of state for India remaining in London



VICEROY HARDINGE.

has been able to make the viceroy merely a figurehead without the prestige absolutely essential to his success in a country where caste and prestige count for so much. Under these circumstances the viceroy, discovering that his efforts were futile, has been glad to retire. Repetitions of these circumstances have done much to prevent the successful administration of Indian affairs.

For this reason it is safe to say that India will see better times in the immediate future. Lord Crewe in London and Lord Hardinge in Calcutta form a combination that will avoid friction, and there is little likelihood of the usurpation of authority in either place. Being old cronies, they are expected to work in harmony.

Lord Crewe is a tremendously wealthy man, the family fortune owing its foundation to the cloth trade. During the eighteenth century the Milnes family practically controlled the cloth business at Wakefield, and the present Lord Crewe, then Robin Milnes, was known some years ago as a clever business man and as a poet of considerable ability.

Lord Crewe has been married twice, his first wife leaving him three daughters. They are all married and are about the same age as their stepmother, who was Lady Peggy Primrose, the daughter of Lord Rosebery.

ROADS DENIED RATE INCREASE

Interstate Commission Disapproves Proposed Advances.

MUST BE CANCELLED MARCH 10

Will Suspend Raises by Formal Order If Companies Disobey—Commission Concedes Some Railroads Need Larger Incomes.

Washington, Feb. 24.—The interstate commerce commission has decided against the railroads in both the "eastern" and the "western" cases.

Proposed advances in class freight rates in official classification territory, aggregating among all the railways in the territory approximately \$27,000,000 a year, were disapproved by the commission.

In the case involving the increases by the railroads in western trunk line territory, the commission also declined to approve the proposed advances in commodity rates.

The carriers in both cases are required to cancel on or before March 10 their advanced tariffs and restore their former rates, which are the rates now in effect. If this requirement be not complied with the commission will issue a formal order suspending the proposed advances and putting into effect the existing rates for at least two years.

Southwestern Rates Changed.
In the case of the railroad commission of Texas against the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railway and other carriers known popularly as the southwestern rate case, the commission declined to disturb the commodity rates or the first class rates complained of. The defendants are ordered to reduce the second class rates, which were increased from \$1.21 to \$1.29, to \$1.25. In the remaining classes the defendants are required to restore the rates in effect before the increased rates were published.

This is the disposition made by the interstate commerce commission of the most important cases ever brought to its attention. In a sense the decisions were in the nature of a surprise to railroad officials and other experts who had followed closely the proceedings, a majority of whom believed the commission would grant some increases to the western lines, if not to the eastern.

More Revenue Needed.
The commission concedes that in the case of some of the roads increased revenue is needed. In the eastern case, the commission was embarrassed by the admitted fact that several of the lines in the territory were paying good dividends upon existing rates, while other carriers in the same territory were barely able to make both ends meet—a few of them scarcely more.

In the western case the carriers entered a powerful plea for increased revenue in order that they might have additional money to put into improvements and betterments, which would enable them to handle with greater facility the constantly increasing traffic of the country.

The same argument was advanced in support of the proposed advances in official classification territory, but Commissioner Prouty, who wrote the opinion in the eastern case, says:

"This argument does not appeal to us. We doubt the practical difficulty suggested (that of obtaining by loan sufficient money to finance the roads) and were it true, that it is not apparent that the general public should stand responsible for the mistakes which have been made in financing these railroad systems."

History of Cases.
Both the eastern and western cases were brought to public attention in the spring of 1910. Just prior to the enactment of the existing interstate commerce law, which, in part, became effective on June 18, 1910, the railways of official classification territory—forty-one in all—and those of the Western Trunk Line association territory filed with the commission tariffs making increases in their freight rates.

The tariffs filed by the eastern lines increased the first class rate between New York and Chicago points 15 cents a hundred pounds, from 75 cents to 90 cents; and made proportional advances on the other five classes. Some advances also were made on commodity rates, but the great bulk of the commodity tonnage of freight was not disturbed.

The proposed advances affected approximately 15 per cent of the total freight tonnage. Approximately the same amount of tonnage was affected by the increases proposed by the western lines, but the class rates were not affected in any way. Commodities alone were increased, the average advance on about 180 different articles being substantially 16 per cent, the increase varying from about 4 per cent in some cases to 50 per cent in others.

Wyoming to Permit Prize Fighting.

Cheyenne, Wyo., Feb. 24.—Wyoming now legalizes boxing matches where conducted by incorporated clubs, the recent legislature having passed a law, which is now awaiting Governor Carey's approval, providing for the licensing of clubs by cities and counties in which same are located, the city license being \$100 and the county license \$150.

HELEN KELLER AS POET.

Blind Girl Writes Poem That is Favorably Received.

Miss Helen Keller, born blind, deaf and dumb, has recently published a poem called "The Chant of the Stone Wall," which has received favorable notice from critics in England as well as in America. The poem is somewhat in the style of Walt Whitman, and the author was untrammelled by any requirements of meter. At times she drops into a natural rhythm, and there



MISS HELEN KELLER.

are lines that are excellent blank verse. This is true of the beginning of the poem, which is as follows:
Come, walk with me, and I will tell
What I have read in this scroll of stone.
I will spell out this writing on hill and meadow.

It is a chronicle wrought by praying swallows,
The forefathers of our nation—
Leagues upon leagues of sealed history—
awaiting an interpreter—
This is New England's tapestry of stone.

The scope of the poem is not well indicated by the title, which requires explanation. The wall or walls which have inspired Miss Keller are those built by the men of the Mayflower and the early settlers and are of familiar stone fence type. The author takes these old walls as the text for her earnest and often strikingly beautiful reflections on the past and present of the northern states. The note of cheerful optimism and of personal joy in life and nature is one of the most remarkable features of the poem—
I am bone of their bone, breath of their
breath.
Their courage is in my soul.
The wall is an illad of granite. It chants
to me
Of pilgrims of the perils deep,
Of fearless journeymen and old forgotten
things.

Miss Keller is a graduate of Radcliffe college, the woman's department of Harvard university. She was recently appointed a member of the Massachusetts Commission For the Blind.

MAYOR SPEER IS ACTIVE.

Chief Executive Has Made Denver a "One Collar" Town.

Robert W. Speer, who will finish his second year term as mayor of Denver in 1912, has made a record as a "mayor who does things." While he has been the chief executive of the Colorado metropolis the city has made tremendous strides in the direction of beauty and cleanliness. It is now



ROBERT W. SPEER.

known as a "one collar" town, which means that a man can wear one collar all day and it will still be tolerably clean at night.

Mayor Speer was mentioned at the beginning of the senatorial contest as a man who would properly represent Colorado at Washington, but he did not show any enthusiasm over the proposition. He had previously said that he was preparing to retire after having been in office continually for a quarter of a century. He began as postmaster of Denver in 1885, was afterward president of the fire and police and the public works boards, and was elected mayor in 1904.

Denver gives its mayor unusual powers. He appoints the members of the boards who direct the city affairs, and can remove them at will. This naturally makes him a "boss" and enables him to construct a political machine that is effective. It also enables him to carry out civic improvement plans, as is shown by the extensive public works completed in Denver during Mayor Speer's terms.

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MASTER ROSCOE HILL'S HAPPY BIRTHDAY PARTY

The pretty home of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Hill on West Pearl street rang with merriment and was the scene of much frolic yesterday afternoon, when their son, Master Roscoe, entertained nine of his little playmates in a very enjoyable manner.

The occasion was in honor of his ninth birthday anniversary and the little guests, who had been invited to come to his home and assist him in commemorating the event properly, celebrated it in a manner which will long be remembered. Mrs. Hill was assisted in entertaining and serving by Misses Allison Johnston, Kittle Cummins and Maude Mason.

The various games, pranks and amusements which the little folks so delightfully entered into with much interest and enthusiasm and a very happy afternoon was spent. Then, too, a very pleasing feature of the afternoon was the delicious birthday supper, which was served at a convenient hour and which the little guests thoroughly enjoyed.

Roscoe received many pretty gifts, which will assist him in remembering this happy event. For the occasion and in deference to the anniversary of the birthday of the Father of our Country, the parlors of the Hill residence were appropriately as well as attractively decorated with little red hatchets.

Those who enjoyed this occasion were: Carl Schneider, Dean Douglas, Newell and Helen Roberts, Mason Wescott, Alice Pollock, Clara Mae Morgan, Margaret Sherwood and Leroy Pitzer.

In County Court.

State of Nebraska, Cass County, ss. In the matter of the estate of John E. Leesley, deceased.

Notice to creditors of said estate is hereby given that all claims against said estate must be presented and filed within six months from the 4th day of March 1911, and that hearings will be had before me at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, March 4th, 1911, and September 6th, 1911, at 9 o'clock a. m., of each day.

Witness my hand and seal of said County Court, this 1st day of February, 1911.

(Seal) Allen J. Beeson,
County Judge.

The roads are getting in better condition, according to the travelers, and the prospects for a good trade on Saturday are bright.

LADIES OF THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH ENTERTAINED

The ladies of the Christian Science church were very pleasantly entertained at the Marshall home yesterday afternoon by Mrs. E. E. Eaton. The ladies of this church meet at the home of one of the members every two weeks for the purpose of participating in a social time and a Kensington, there being no collections taken at these meetings. Consequently the greater part of the afternoon was devoted to the plying of the busy needle, while sociability reigned supreme. The pleasures of the afternoon were further augmented when the guests were invited to partake of a delightful luncheon, which was likewise thoroughly enjoyed.

HIGH SCHOOL DEBATORS GO TO SOUTH OMAHA

From Saturday's Daily. The Plattsmouth team of High school debaters, in company with Principal Winchey, Wayne Dickson, Sam Windham and Lester Dalton, left for South Omaha today, where they meet in debate the South Omaha team. The debaters are Elmer Halstrom, Matthew Herold and John Falter, and they will speak in the order named, John Falter having the closing argument for the negative of the question: "Resolved, that it is preferable for the United States to maintain the navy in its present state of efficiency, than to make a substantial increase." Plattsmouth has a strong team and Principal Winchey will be disappointed if his team should fail to convince the judges that we have the arguments with us.

In County Court.
In the county court today Judge Beeson listened to the final report and petition for final settlement and discharge of the guardian of Earl Elmer Dawson, who has attained his majority. Attorney Charles L. Graves of Union appeared for the guardian and affected the settlement with the ward.

Mrs. Ed Tutt and her sister, Mrs. Nims, departed for Lincoln on the morning train today to be present at the funeral of their cousin, Mrs. Lempke, which occurs tomorrow from St. Theresa cathedral.

THE NEW WAY OF SMOKING MEAT

By applying two coats of WRIGHT'S CONDENSED SMOKE directly to the meat, with a brush after the meat has gone through the salt, it will be thoroughly smoked, will have a delicious flavor and will keep solid and sweet and free from insects through the entire summer.

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