

company and several independent banana importers interested in the fruit trust for violation of the Sherman anti-trust law, attributes the failure of his company to discriminations in freight rates in favor of the United Fruit company and its allied companies. He is suing for \$30,000 damages, sustained, he declared in his petition, through several defendants obtaining control of the Southern Steamship company and putting it out of business.

His holdings became worthless, as the company could not compete with the trust because the latter corporation secured special freight rates. Had it not been for the freight rate discrimination the Southern Steamship company, Mr. Plaza declared, would be in existence today, but when the United Fruit company got control the stock depreciated and he was financially ruined.

Georgia's Crockery Business Dead

Macon, Ga., Jan. 7.—Crockery and glass-ware merchants have one after another been obliged to quit business in Macon because of discriminating freight rates. The present rates from Akron, O., to Macon average from 25 to 60 per cent of the cost of goods. J. W. Domingos, Cubhedge & Co., Tindall & Co., and C. B. Willingham, jr., are among those who have tried but have had to quit because they found it impossible to overcome the freight rate handicap.

R. F. Smith and Kress now have stores here, but Smith is cutting out his crockery orders, saying he can not stand the freight rates.

Thousands of acres of kaolin mines, from which the finest chinaware is made, are idle within five miles of Macon because rates scare off those who would establish crockery plants here. More than 100 prospectors have been here to begin manufacturing, but they declare that the rates would kill them.

The Rico Mining company, which mined and bolted high-class clay at Macon, went to the wall two years ago, and several other mines have quit business because clay can be shipped from England across the continent to Ohio points cheaper than the same material can be shipped from Macon to the same points in Ohio.

Railroads Squeeze Columbus Concerns

Columbus, O., Jan. 7.—In several instances concerns here have been hard squeezed by freight discriminations. The Hanna Paint company of Columbus was recently forced to pay 53 cents a gallon to the Standard Oil company for turpentine because it could not get shipping facilities for just as good turpentine that it was offered in the east for 38 cents a gallon.

The Columbus Buggy company recently laid complaint before the Columbus Board of Trade that it was being shut out of the eastern market because the railroads charged it higher rates east than they charged eastern manufacturers to send the same goods west.

The Fostoria Signal company is now about to bring ouster suits in the United States court here because the railroads are discriminating against it in favor of a combine of makers of railway signal goods and driving them out of the business.

The Hocking Valley railroad and other coal roads controlled by the coal pool refused to put in switches for the Johnson coal mine or to permit the coal company to put it in until suit to oust them from their charters for refusing equal opportunities to shippers was filed in the Ohio supreme

court. Then the switch was put in and the suit was dismissed at the defendants' cost.

Fort Wayne's Commercial Interests Injured

Fort Wayne, Ind., Jan. 7.—At adjacent non-competitive points shippers say they are severely discriminated against in the furnishing of cars. Hundreds have been held up for months without service. Complaint is also made of the manifestly unfair and unreasonable enforcement of demurrage rules, the lesser and more helpless shippers suffering the most from this oppression.

Large receivers complain that neighboring cities of much less commercial importance are favored with rates on coal of 15 cents less than Fort Wayne, and many of the larger shippers complain of the refusal of the local railroads to switch to and from each other located on team tracks. This works a great hardship on shippers and injuriously to Fort Wayne's commercial interests. The Fort Wayne Commercial club has laboriously endeavored to have this rule abrogated, but without success.

Progress of Several Iowa Firms Halted

Marshalltown, Ia., Jan. 7.—Discrimination in freight rates directly affects all foundry and steel industries here. While this business is carried on to a limited extent by both the A. E. Shortill Foundry company and the Lennox Foundry company they are hampered by the present traffic rates, which gives cities west of the Missouri river a better rate and on the other hand cities on the Mississippi river are given another rate.

Steel can be bought in Kansas City just as cheap as in this city. While this condition has not ruined any firm lately, it works against any increase along this line.

Small poultry and dressed meat concerns can not compete with large packers on account of the private car system, owners of cars being granted concessions for the use of cars far in excess, it is declared, of the value of the service.

California Fruit Growers Hampered

San Jose, Cal., Jan. 7.—Fruit growers feel that overland charges for fresh and dried fruit are altogether too high, and they particularly chafe under the present system of shipping refrigerated fruits in cars owned by a private corporation, one that pays the Southern Pacific railroad for the privilege of operating them over the company's lines, the company refusing to provide cars of its own for such freight.

Millions of Dollars Lost to Mobile's Trade

Mobile, Ala., Jan. 7.—The business of this port has been retarded by a discrimination in rates on certain commodities in favor of New Orleans, 141 miles further south, and in favor of Pensacola, 106 miles east. The fact of the Louisville & Nashville having a monopoly at Pensacola has caused the loss of millions to this port in the matter of the shipment of coal to Mexico.

Aimed At General Miles

An Associated Press dispatch, dated Washington, D. C., Jan. 11, says: "The appointment of Lieutenant General Nelson A. Miles as inspector general of the state of Massachusetts overshadowed all other questions in the discussion of the army appropriation bill in the house today. The debate had proceeded leisurely until Mr. Hull, in charge of the bill, offered an amendment providing that retired officers above the grade of major should not receive the full pay of their grade when assigned to duty with the militia of the several states. Several members declared that the amendment was directed especially at General Miles."

Week At Washington

The principal topic of discussion in the senate during the past week was the joint statehood bill of Arizona and New Mexico.

The pure food bill will be taken up as soon as convenient, it having been set aside in order to consider more important matters.

President Roosevelt put an effective damper on an attempt to add a very beautiful part of the Yosemite National park to the property of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad. The Associated Press says: "The bill takes from the Yosemite park and adds to the forest reserve some lands containing valuable oil and mining properties. Private interests can not get any land out of the park, but they can get it out of the forest reserve, and that was the purpose of the bill. It slipped through the house without debate and through the senate with hardly any notice. Mr. Perkins signed it as acting president in the absence of Mr. Fry and it went to the president. What excited Mr. Roosevelt's suspicion was the discovery that the lands to be turned into the forest reserve had already been decided by a commission appointed by himself to be a part of the park. The president investigated and found that railroad men and others had been lobbying for the bill. He discovered its real purpose, sent for a member of the California delegation, examined him about it and announced his purpose of vetoing the measure."

The state department at Washington has received information that the Persian government, complying with the demands of the United States, has made to the widow of Rev. Benjamin Larabee, an American missionary, partial reparation. An indemnity of \$30,000 will be paid to her and those implicated in the crime of murdering her husband will be punished.

William Randolph Hearst has introduced a resolution calling on the president for "all reports, documents, papers and orders showing the executive action relating to political activity by letter carriers mentioned in his last annual message and the grounds therefor;" also directing the postmaster general to communicate to the house all facts bearing upon the dismissal of four postal employes and the grounds for their dismissal. Mr. Hearst called attention to that portion of the president's message referring to labor unions, conceding the right to organize, but stating that "individual rights must be protected." Mr. Hearst believed a desire on the part of a letter carrier for an increase in salary was an individual right and ought to be protected.

The South Dakota delegation in the house is working hard to secure an extension of time for Rosebud land settlers to May 1. Under the present law these homesteaders would be required to make their settlements in February, during which month the climatic conditions in that part of the country render it dangerous for settlers to attempt to build residences on their claims.

It is reported that a poll taken of the republican members of the house showed that about 90 per cent of them are opposed to tariff revision.

Fifty residents of Oklahoma besieged the senate January 12 in the interest of the statehood bill.

President Roosevelt has given it to be understood that unless the arbitra-

tion treaties now pending before the United States senate are ratified in their present form they will be withdrawn.

An Associated Press dispatch, dated Washington, D. C., Jan. 10, says: "Senator Dubois, who has been active against polygamy, today introduced an amendment to the statehood bill which reserves to congress the right to legislate on the subject of polygamy and polygamous cohabitation. The amendment provides that congress may take action if the two states to be admitted, if the pending bill becomes a law, should fail to enact effective legislation. Senator Dubois desires that congress shall insist that the two proposed states shall incorporate an anti-polygamy clause in their constitution, and he believes if the amendment is adopted national legislation of a similar character would be enacted applicable to every state."

The house committee on insular affairs has directed Chairman Cooper to recommend to the house that it non-concur in the senate amendments to the Philippine bill and ask for a conference.

Senator Cockrell will succeed James D. Yeomans of Iowa, whose term expired Jan. 7, on the interstate commerce commission.

President Roosevelt has withdrawn a letter which he wrote some time ago extending his good wishes for the success of the Newsboys' Magazine, Mu-

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