

KILLS COMPETITION

That Principle Dominates Northern Pacific Business

THE INTERSTATE LAW IS NIL

Even the Interstate Commissioners Were Astounded at the Frank Admission of a Northern Pacific Witness

The most notable feature of the interstate commerce commission's hearing at Washington was an admission by Frank Waterhouse, representing the Northern Pacific steamship company, Seattle, Wash., of a discriminating contract between that company and the Northern Pacific railroad. Mr. Waterhouse was discussing the 75-cent through rate on hemp from Manila to St. Paul, equally divided between the water line and the railroad.

Chairman Knapp asked if this meant that the company wanted the Northern Pacific road to carry hemp from Seattle to St. Paul for 37 1/2 cents when brought over in the Boston company's steamers, but that if brought over on a tramp steamer the Northern Pacific would be expected to charge twice as much.

Mr. Waterhouse said that if brought over on a tramp steamer the Northern Pacific would not take the hemp, "because," said he, "they have a contract with our line which prohibits them from taking it."

Chairman Knapp: "You do not mean quite that, do you?"
Mr. Waterhouse: "Yes, sir, I mean that."

Chairman Knapp: "The Northern Pacific have an arrangement with you under which they will not carry any hemp except that you bring it over in your steamers?"

Mr. Waterhouse: "I mean they will not take it at the same rate. They would not make the same through rate to a tramp sailing ship or tramp steamer that arrived in the harbor of Seattle or Tacoma that they would to the regular line."

This admission caused a sensation, and General Counsel M. D. Grover of the Northern Pacific and Great Northern took the stand to explain the situation.

Important Decision for Railroad Men
An employe of a railroad is entitled to elect his remedy in case of an injury while in the service, and if he later, through mistaken effort, attempts to pursue another remedy and loses the same it does not debar him from the benefits of the elective remedy, or in other words, if an employe of a railroad company is injured while in the service of the company and makes arrangements with the company for recompense for the injury, and then later seeks to recover in another manner and fails to do so, he can still receive the benefits of the first agreement. Also, a decision by a medical examiner that a man is recovered from his disability and is not entitled to further disability benefits is a mere conclusion and as such is not binding nor conclusive. This is the gist of the opinion of the supreme court of Nebraska whereby it upholds the decision of the lower court and decides that the C. B. & Q. R. H. should give Louis Heson the disability relief agreed upon between them.

Erbery Classified as "Infamous Crime"
Erbery is classified as an infamous crime by the supreme court of Illinois in affirming the decree of the lower court in the case of Jim Christie versus the people, which came from Hamilton county. The validity of a chapter of the revised statutes relating to elections was attacked by the attorneys for Christie.

Christie was charged with demanding \$50 from H. S. Harris, candidate for sheriff. He pleaded not guilty, but upon trial was convicted and sentenced to disfranchisement for a term of five years and a three months imprisonment in the county jail. Christie contended that the statute under which he was convicted is in conflict with that part of the constitution which confers the right of the elective franchise upon resident citizens having the qualifications prescribed in that section, but the supreme court affirms the lower court's decision.

Columbia Did Send Out 1500 Men
The United States cruiser Atlanta, Commander William H. Turner, returned to Colon from the Gulf of Darien. She reported the discovery Dec. 15 a detachment of Colombian troops, numbering visually about 500 men, but according to their statements totaling 1,500 or 2,000 men, at Titumati, on the western side of the gulf, just north of the mouth of the Atrato river. The commander of Atlanta sent ashore an officer, who conversed with the Colombian commander. The latter protested energetically against the presence of American warships in Colombian waters, inasmuch as war between Colombia and the United States had not been declared and politely requested the Atlanta to leave the gulf, because it belonged to Colombia. Commander Turner ignored the request and the Atlanta returned to Colon to report to Rear Admiral Coghlan.

General Black Will Be Appointed
The president has tendered the position of civil service commissioner, made vacant by the death of John R. Proctor, to General John C. Black, of Chicago. General Black is commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Friars Will Sell Their Lands
An agreement has been reached between Governor Taft and the friars by which the United States will acquire the friar lands for \$17,210,000 gold. The pope has given his approval to the terms of the agreement and the approval of the war department is awaited. The settlement provides for the purchase of 492,000 acres, comprising all the agricultural lands and holdings of the friars, with the exception of 12-000 acres, including a farm near Manila which has been sold to a railway company and also one sugar plantation.

TO TEST ALIEN LAW

Suit Will Be Instituted by a Kansas State Attorney

RENTAL VALUE OVER \$36,000

Grand Lodge I. O. O. F. Now in Possession Under Will of Mrs. Corinne Martinella, a French Alien

Countdown in Kansas
County Attorney Pleasant, on behalf of the state of Kansas, has filed a suit to recover the Deboisiers' Orphan's home property in Franklin county now held under a supreme court decision by Troutman & Stone of Topeka. The present action is taken under the alien and law prohibiting alien heirs from acquiring title to the land of aliens. Troutman & Stone and the former Odd Fellows board of home trustees are made defendants. The action asks possession and \$36,000 rental.

Robert Stone, of the firm of Troutman & Stone of Topeka, stated that he did not believe the suit instituted in Franklin county would interfere with their possession of the property because the state law interfered with the treaties existing between this country and France. Also he said the prosecution would have to establish the claim that their grantor, Madame Corinne Martinella, was an alien.

"Although this law has never been tested in Kansas," Mr. Stone said, "it has in many other states and in every instance has been knocked out. We are aware of our status in the case and are not alarmed about the outcome of the action. The existing treaties between our government and France obviate the effect of the law and it will not hold good regarding our case. Besides that the state will have to prove that our grantor was an alien. She was residing in France when she gave us her claim to the property, but she had previously lived in this country for many years."

Grand Secretary W. H. Kemper of the Odd Fellows of Kansas was first informed of the bringing of the suit. The Odd Fellows have been made defendants in the action. Mr. Kemper expressed some surprise and said: "The bringing of this action suits us very well, as it will tie up the property and give the Odd Fellows an opportunity to establish the validity of their claims against the estate. We are very well pleased to be made defendants. I knew nothing of the bringing of the suit, but do not know that the members of the grand lodge committee appointed to have charge of the De Boisiers' affairs are not behind it."

That committee is composed of Grand Master Gomer T. Davies of Concordia, Deputy Grand Master G. W. Alliman of Atchison and Grand Warden J. L. Saunders of Cheney.

On Trial for Safe Blowing
The trial of ex-County Treasurer Wilson of Rawlins county, Kansas, on the charge of blowing up and robbing the county safe, is being watched with keen interest by the Franklin county officers, since it was in Ottawa that Mrs. Newsome, the principal witness for the prosecution, was traced down and induced to make a confession. Mrs. Newsome left Atwood about the time the investigation of the treasury robbery and other local offenses began. A tip from Rawlins county officers resulted in an investigation and the woman was finally induced by Sheriff Costigan to turn over her letters from Wilson and tell her story of the Atwood robbery.

Anti-Horse Thief Association Protest
The Arkansas City, Kan., branch of the anti-horse thief association has started a movement to have the law which gives the warden of the state penitentiary the power to parole a prisoner after he has served one year of his sentence, repealed. A petition was passed by the last legislature. A petition will be prepared and every member of the association in Kansas will be asked to sign it. It will be presented to the next legislature. The association advances an argument for the repeal of the bill that the state has offered already fifty rewards of \$50 each for prisoners who were paroled and who did not live up to their agreement.

Mine Blow Up at Cherokee
Five men, Jonathan Schwab, William Jones, E. A. Vanvelder, William Brown and John Archer, were caught in an explosion in the Schwab coal mine a mile south of Cherokee, Kan., and dangerously burned. The company physician says the men may not recover and that it will be impossible at present to say whether any or all will die. The cage of the mine was blown out and the tipple demolished. The five men were the only men in the mine at the time of the accident. It is not known what caused the explosion. Schwab is one of the owners of the mine.

Steamer Discovery Found by Indian
A special dispatch to the Seattle (Wash.) Times from Juneau says that the wreck of the steamer Discovery has been found. An Indian from Cross sound found the wreck and brought the news to Juneau. The revenue cutter Rush has gone to the scene, taking the Indian as a guide.

Persians and Turcomans Fight
Sanguinary conflicts between Persians and Turcomans are reported to have occurred on the Russo-Persian frontier. The trouble arose from the establishment of Persian custom houses there. Fights between customs officers and Turcomans followed and resulted in killing on both sides. The governor of Astrabad, with a large body of troops intervened and refused an indemnity offered by the Turcoman khans. In the fighting which ensued, both sides sustained heavy losses. According to a telegram to the Novoe Vremya, the Persian troops were defeated and retired to Astrabad.

GRAFTING UP AT NOME.

Not To Cold to Prevent the Prevailing American Occupation.

WEAKNESS IN THE CHANGE

Principal Fault in National Banking Law is Tendency to Concentrate Money at Certain Periods

Senator William B. Allison of Iowa, spoke before the bankers' club of Chicago upon "Our Currency System and Our National Finances."

After reciting the history of the various financial laws that have been enacted by congress since 1879, the senator took up the Bland-Allison and the Sherman acts, which together provided for all the silver dollars coined and in circulation or represented by silver certificates.

"I regarded in 1890 as I regard now, the act of that year as a mistake," he said, "but it was the best attainable then as respects the coinage of silver dollars, and it ought to be forgotten in the consideration of this subject of the silver dollar that there has been turned into the treasury as profit in coinage about \$130,000,000 in the aggregate. This creates a moral obligation on the part of the government to maintain these silver dollars at a parity with gold coin outside of specific provision of law directing it to be done, twice, passed by congress, and emphasized in the act of 1900. Our national banking system lacks elasticity in one respect.

"National banks can not curtail their circulation at will, although they can increase it at will. This can easily be remedied by a modification of the law prohibiting the retirement at the rate of more than \$3,000,000 per month. But there is elasticity in the other direction, as shown by the fact that our national bank circulation has very largely increased during recent years.

"Under present banking methods there is a constant tendency to concentration of money in the great centers at certain periods of the year, it not being required for use in more rural portions of the country. This money can not well remain idle in these centers, interest being paid on deposits, and when it is needed at the more distant points there is difficulty in its withdrawal from these central marts of trade and business. It is possible that this system of concentration might be checked in some degree by the bankers themselves.

"I have not discussed what is known as the system of asset currency. I do not see that this proposed radical change of our laws in respect to our circulation is possible as long as our present system of direct government issues prevails, as it would result in a large expansion of the total volume of the currency, and this expansion can not be checked by means of rapid redemption, because there is no motive to press redemption. Note can be redeemed by securing under an asset system by requiring redemption in gold because so long as these government issues continue in so large a volume the government would be called upon to provide the gold for the banks through redemption of its own issues and would be the storehouse from which the banks would draw the gold to redeem their issues. Thus would be created a needless, endless chain, which might result in embarrassment to the government."

Dietrich's Trial Set for January 4.
The indictments against Dietrich were returned November 16 and December 17. To the indictment charging him with profiting by leasing a postoffice building to the government Senator Dietrich pleaded not guilty, and to that charging him with conspiracy and bribery he refused to plead. In the latter counts, which were those returned November 16, in which he is charged jointly with Postmaster Jacob Fisher, of Hastings, with conspiracy and bribery in connection with Fisher's appointment, General Cowin informed the court that the defendant would attack the sufficiency of the indictment.

Colored People's College Burned
Four persons are known to have been killed and perhaps thirty others injured, twelve of them fatally, in a fire which consumed the central Tennessee college for young negro women, Nashville, a department of the Walden university. It is possible that the ruins may contain the bodies of other victims. The property loss is estimated at \$25,000.

PRESENT LAW GOOD

Senator Allison Declares Against Asset Currency Scheme

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