

HEPBURN BILL READY

Lightly Amended Measure Commands Support of Entire Committee.

IOWA MEMBER WARMLY CONGRATULATED

Action of House Expected to Have Great Effect on Senate.

COMMISSION REDUCED TO SEVEN MEMBERS

Change Made in Definition of Maximum Rate.

DEMOCRATS WILL SUPPORT MEASURE

Cent of Drafting Bill that Will Secure Support of Both Parties in Without Many Precedents.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—After a conference lasting all the afternoon the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce agreed on a rate bill to be known as the Hepburn bill and to be reported to the house with the unanimous recommendation of the eighteen members of the committee. In the main the bill is the original Hepburn bill, but a number of concessions were made to the democrats and their ideas as set forth in the Davis bill were incorporated in the new measure. Chairman Hepburn was congratulated by the members of his committee on drafting a bill on which the two parties could agree, and the members of the conference assert the belief that it will have a great effect upon the attitude of the senate toward the measure.

Mr. Hepburn and the other republicans agreed to accept the wording of the democratic bill in the provision for the fixing of the maximum rate. The amendment which was adopted provides that the commission shall fix a reasonable, just and equitable maximum rate which shall be the maximum rate. It was maintained by the democrats that under the original Hepburn wording the commission was required to fix the highest of the reasonable, just and fairly remunerative rates in use above were set forth in the original bill. Hepburn and the republicans do not believe there is any difference in the two wordings, but were perfectly willing to accept the language of the Davis bill. The amended bill also provides for seven members in the interstate commerce commission instead of nine as provided in the original bill. Another amendment incorporated at the request of the democrats provides that in no case damages assessed the commission may state its conclusion and need not set forth its findings. A section of the Davis bill requiring that in a case of general appeal the cases shall file the certificate necessary to expedite the hearing was incorporated in the amended bill. Another amendment provides that orders of the commission shall continue in force for three years unless repealed.

WARREN'S EQUAL RIGHTS BILL

Wyoming Senator Desires All Women to Vote for Representative.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—At the beginning of today's session of the senate Mr. Warren introduced a bill giving to women the right to vote in all states for representatives in congress. The bill was referred to the committee on woman's suffrage. For more than three hours today Mr. Spooner occupied the time of the senate in explanation and defense of the course of the administration relative to the Moroccan conference at Tangier and in connection with Santo Domingo. The speech was delivered to crowded galleries and to a well filled senate and received careful attention. It was in effect a response to Mr. Bacon and Mr. Tillman, and its purpose was to justify the president's acts in both matters.

CHINESE ARE IN WASHINGTON

Imperial Party Begins Study of American Government Methods.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—The Imperial Chinese commission which recently arrived here today, visited the State department this afternoon and later took luncheon at the Chinese legation and tonight the party was entertained at the legation. The members of the commission were cordially greeted at the State department. Nearly all of the members of the commission speak English fluently and several of them donned western clothing and started on sight-seeing tours of the city. A number of secretaries began to prepare for the investigation which will be made during the next few days. The commission was sent to study the methods of government of this country and to see how far the Chinese educational and military systems can be benefited by introducing some elements of the American systems. At the same time the commission will endeavor to bring the two countries closer together and to convince the American people that the boycott movement was perpetrated by private persons and had in no way the sanction of the imperial government.

WHITE ACTS AS MEDIATOR

American Delegate Quietly Endeavoring to Bring France and Germany Closer Together.

ALGERIAS, Jan. 23.—H. B. White, American ambassador to Italy, acting as mediator in the Moroccan conference, is making the weight of his influence felt in quiet endeavors to bring France and Germany nearer together before the final questions arise in the conference. The consideration of economic and political reforms in Morocco will begin next week. It has been possible for the United States to take a lead in seeking a way toward an agreement that shall guarantee to all countries equal footing in Morocco and yet recognize some respects the actual position of France. It is a difficult task, but all the governments except those directly concerned are assisting in it because of the danger of the situation should the conference fail. Great Britain is with France and is not disposed to assist in any modification of its views. Italy, however, as the ally of Germany and the friends of France and Russia and Spain, as the ally of France and the friend of Germany, are co-operating in efforts to find a compromise. The delegates to the Moroccan conference, operating day by day to further the functions commemorating King Alfonso's birthday. The Spanish, French and British squadrons in the harbor displayed a full complement of colors and from daylight the warships and land fortifications fired salutes. The most spectacular feature of the day was the official reception of the Spanish minister for foreign affairs, the Duke of Almodovar, in honor of the delegates, affording for the first time an opportunity for the representatives of the many nations to assemble in the gorgeous uniforms of their high diplomatic, military or naval ranks. The reception was held in the town hall at noon.

The scene was rendered more gay by the mid-summer sunshine, flowers and groups and groups of people. Within the conference hall the delegations entered, mostly resplendent in gold lace, ribbons and other decorations, the American alone of the glittering assemblage being in evening dress and without uniform. The Duke of Almodovar, standing at the foot of the improvised throne and surrounded by an imposing staff of officers, mace bearers, bishops and bare footed monks, received in the name of King Alfonso the delegations which presented the National Life and Trust company. During the afternoon the minister of state received the delegates on board the armored cruiser, Emperor Charles V.

INSURANCE SUIT IN IOWA

Bill for Receiver for National Life of Chicago Filled at Capital.

CHICAGO, Jan. 23.—A bill, asking for a receiver for the National Life Insurance company at Chicago has been filed in the district court at Des Moines, Ia., where the company has \$2,000,000 on deposit with the state. The bill was introduced by L. Watson, a policyholder, who asks also that the Chicago company be restrained from transferring or disposing of funds. Dr. Watson alleges that promises made for the payment of gold bonds have not been kept. The bill also asks for an order to the receiver to file a report as to the assets of the company. The bill also asks for an order to the receiver to file a report as to the assets of the company. The bill also asks for an order to the receiver to file a report as to the assets of the company.

PRESIDENT'S APPOINTEE IS UP

Richard H. Mann, Annapolis Midshipman, is Accused of Hazing at the Academy.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Jan. 23.—Lieutenant C. F. Snyder, who has been accused by a testimony of several midshipmen witnesses in the case of First Classman Claude E. Mayo, charged with hazing, of hinting to other classmen that new midshipmen should be hazing in order that the opportunity might be afforded, was recalled to the stand at the opening of the session this morning. He was called in rebuttal by the judge advocate. Immediately upon the conclusion of the case against Mayo, who is from the University of Michigan, the court will begin the trial of midshipman Richard H. Mann, also a first classman and an appointee of President Roosevelt.

KANSAS LAND FRAUD CASES

Former Officials Charged with Conspiracy Attack Validity of the Indictments.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 23.—The case against P. Dumont Smith, a state senator from Kansas; T. E. Ryan, formerly government land inspector in western Kansas, and Roscoe Wilson, postmaster at Johnson, Kan., indicted recently at Topeka on a charge of conspiracy to violate the land laws of the United States, were called in the district court here today before Judge John P. Phillips. The attorneys for Smith and Ryan filed demurrers, while Wilson's attorney moved that the indictment against the latter be quashed. The grounds set up are technical. Argument was begun on the motions. The court took the matter under advisement.

FONTANELLES NOT PLEASED

Notify Millard and Kennedy Appointment of Goss is Not Satisfactory.

BLACKBURN ONLY ONE TO THEIR LIKING

M. A. Brown, Editor of Kearney Hub, Lands the Postoffice After a Long and Bitter Fight—Two Jobs for Bullock.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—(Special Telegram.)—The Fontanelle club is not satisfied with the nomination of Charles A. Goss to be United States district attorney. Senator Millard and Representative Kennedy are in receipt of letters from members of the organization voicing their opposition to Mr. Goss' selection. They do not hesitate to say in those letters that Mr. Blackburn was the choice of the Fontanelle club for Bullock's succession, and that any selection outside of the club's recommendation would be regarded as an affront. While the gentlemen above mentioned regret that they could not see their way clear to the selection of the person who received the endorsement of that organization they still insist that the nomination was the best that could have been made in view of all the circumstances.

COAL OPERATORS MEET TODAY

Indications Point to a Retreat of Most of the Demands of the Miners.

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 23.—The coal operators of the central co-operative district, comprising the states of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, will hold district meetings at the local headquarters of the operators tomorrow for the purpose of unifying the several propositions which they propose to present to the United Mine Workers of America in joint conference, which begins Thursday morning. All indications point to a resistance against any increase beyond the figure which prevailed at the consummation of the agreement now in force, and it is not certain that the operators will entertain the proposition of the mine workers to reduce the outlying states to the joint conference.

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TOWN TOPICS CASE RESUMED

Former Managing Editor Says Paper Had Prominent Persons on Immune List.

NEW YORK, Jan. 23.—The trial of Norman Hapgood, editor of Collier's Weekly, charged with criminal libel by Justice Deuel, a city magistrate, as a result of the publication of a paragraph concerning the latter's connection with Town Topics, is bearing an end. After the examination of Colonel Mann, editor of Town Topics, it was concluded this morning the defense introduced a number of witnesses and on adjournment this evening counsel for Mr. Hapgood announced that they would probably finish their case tomorrow. The case was followed today with the same interest manifested at the hearing was again conspicuous among those in the courtroom. The witnesses introduced by the defense included Commodore Elbridge T. Benson, formerly managing editor of Town Topics, and Charles Stokes Warner, formerly managing editor of Town Topics, testified that Justice Deuel read part of Town Topics every Tuesday night. "Frequently this work was done at Colonel Mann's house, the witness said. He next depicted a card index which he said Town Topics kept of persons about whom it printed paragraphs. "Name some of them?" "Russell A. Alger, James Hazen Hyde, Perry Belmont, James R. Keene, William K. Vanderbilt, George F. Root, J. Pierpont Morgan, Chauncey M. Depew, A. J. Cassatt and about fifty others."

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Black Hand Society Decried Death of Governor Pennypacker and Other Prominent Men.

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