

REPORTS RATE BILL

Hepburn Measure is Presented in Upper House by Mr. Tillman.

NORMAL REPORT WILL COME LATER

South Carolinian Makes Brief Statement and Bill is Ordered Printed.

EXPLANATION FROM MR. ALDRICH

Fight Transferred from Committee Room to Floor of Senate.

GALLERIES CROWDED TO HEAR REMA

Mr. Culberson Offers His Bill as Substitute and Mr. McComber Submits Resolution Defining His Views.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The Hepburn railroad rate bill was reported to the senate today by Senator Tillman in accordance with the action of the senate committee on interstate commerce last Friday. Large crowds assembled in the galleries, anticipating a field day of debate, but were disappointed. There was little interest in the proceedings regarding the bill. A brief statement from Mr. Tillman, with the necessary arrangement for printing the report of the hearings before the committee and a promise that a formal report would be made later, was followed by remarks from Mr. Aldrich, showing the position of the five republicans who opposed the bill as reported. Mr. Aldrich indicated that there would be no unnecessary delay, but that the bill would be discussed in accordance with its importance. Mr. Clapp called up the bill to dispose of the affairs of the civil war veterans in Indian Territory and the preliminary discussion showed that there was considerable opposition, also that there was to be criticism of the disposition of the coal lands owned by the Indians.

Mr. Dick occupied the floor during the afternoon, continuing his speech in support of the joint resolution bill. A number of bills of local importance were passed just before the senate adjourned.

Galleries Are Crowded. Expecting a spirited discussion over the report of Mr. Tillman of the Hepburn railroad rate bill, the galleries of the senate chamber were crowded today. A session was called to order. An unusually large number of senators also were in their seats.

Mr. Tillman decided that he was not prepared to make a formal report and that it would be more expedient to simply report the bill in accordance with the resolution adopted by the committee, which provides that the members are left free to exercise individual judgment concerning amendments that may be offered in the senate.

As soon as the vice president called for reports of standing committees a number of senators arose. Mr. Tillman was recognized. He announced that he had been instructed by the committee on interstate commerce to report house bill 12,827 without amendment, and he read the resolution adopted. After a discussion concerning the printing of the testimony taken by the committee, the order was given for the publication of 10,000 copies. Mr. Tillman gave notice that he would press the bill to the earliest consideration. He said that much of the testimony taken was irrelevant and that the committee had employed two experts, the New York Times and Adams, and they had made an epitome of the testimony, which also will be printed.

Would Displace Stated Bill. Mr. Tillman announced that as soon as possible he proposed to digest the testimony and to submit a formal report on the bill. He said that within two weeks he should move to make the rate bill the unfinished business and to displace the stated bill, if that measure was not disposed of by that time. The importance of the rate measure and the wide interest in the subject throughout the country, he said, made it desirable that the bill should be considered without delay.

As soon as he had concluded Mr. Aldrich was recognized, and said:

A majority of the republican members of the committee did not join in the favorable report which has just been made by the senator from South Carolina. The reason for this in their judgment an attempt should be made by the committee to remedy the past errors. It is a matter of obvious and admitted defects and omissions of the house bill, and that clear and adequate provisions could have been made for substituting the orders of the commission affecting rates. It is a matter of fact that these amendments were only necessary to protect the rights of the past and to give the bill the vitality and efficiency of the measure. With these amendments the minority members with the exception of the senator from Ohio, who is opposed to all government rate making, were ready to give their support to the house bill.

Culberson Offers Amendment. Mr. Culberson said that from the report made by the senator from South Carolina he noticed that certain members of the committee reserved the right to offer amendments.

The senator is not entirely correct in his statement," interrupted Mr. Tillman. "The resolution was adopted by the committee and all members have reserved rights concerning the offering of amendments." "Well, then," said Mr. Culberson, "I take it that in a large degree the committee's action is to be no more or less than a transfer of a controversy from the committee to the senate chamber. Therefore I offer a substitute for the bill just reported. This substitute is in effect the bill on the same subject which I previously introduced." The bill was ordered printed and to lay on the table until the rate bill is taken up.

McComber Offers Resolution. Mr. McComber offered a resolution setting forth his views as to what should be embodied in a railroad rate bill and gave notice that he would speak on the resolution later. The resolution declared that a bill on this subject should contain provisions to prevent all discriminations, restraints or preferences, to be carried out through the ownership of a stock, cold storage and other private cars, and provide that all charges paid for rentals of such cars is sufficient to prevent discriminations in favor of the owners, and that on and after January 1, 1909, all railroads should own all special cars for carrying all kinds of merchandise, that railroads furnish being and all special services for safeguarding of freight, provide for safe and full protection and prevent pooling and all other evils.

The amended Gillespie-Tillman resolution requesting the Interstate Commerce commission to investigate the relations of railroads with the production of bituminous and anthracite coal and oil was laid before

CROMWELL BEFORE COMMITTEE

Panama Canal Lawyer Has Sharp Fight with Senator Morgan.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The examination of William Nelson Cromwell, who has figured largely in connection with the sale of the Panama canal property to the United States, was begun by the senate committee on intercommerce today. His testimony has been looked forward to with much interest and nearly all the members of the committee were present. Senator Platt of New York appearing for the first time since the hearing began. Many of the questions asked Mr. Cromwell related to the interview at the Manhattan hotel in New York regarding the resignation of Mr. Wallace when Secretary Taft, Mr. Wallace and Mr. Cromwell were present. There were frequent fits between the witness and Senator Morgan because the former was not more specific in his answers to questions by the senator. It culminated dramatically at the close of the day when Mr. Cromwell refused to answer various questions asked by the senator, and the latter declared he would deal with the witness in the senate when the facts regarding the resignation of Mr. Wallace came out. Mr. Cromwell replied with some warmth that that was the "only safe place to do it."

Mr. Cromwell in his statement declared that every penny of the money paid by the United States government for the purchase of the Panama railway stock and for the French canal property had been accounted for. He stated that he had declined to accept the position of counsel for the canal commission, and that his activity had been largely upon the legislation of the United States regarding the canal. He said that his only financial interest on the isthmus or in the republic of Panama was a personal investment in the capital stock of the Panama-American corporation of which he owned \$200,000 out of a total capital of \$2,000,000. This company, Mr. Cromwell said, was engaged in supplying the city of Panama with electric light, ice and telephone service. It was a local and private affair and he was induced to take stock in the corporation in order to assist a local enterprise.

Another statement which Mr. Cromwell made that attracted much interest was that in all his relations with the government of the United States and Panama, and even in the acquiring of the outstanding minority shares of the Panama railway for the United States, which was brought about through Mr. Cromwell's activity and labor, not a cent was received by him for his services. He stated that his final account was in the government files and every share of stock was now in the treasury of the United States.

ASSEMBLY TO MEET IN MAY

Case Fixes the Date for Convening of Representatives of People.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 26.—An imperial decree was published today stating that the national assembly will meet May 10.

The efforts to retain in the cabinet M. Timiriazoff, the minister of commerce, who tendered his resignation on February 19, came to naught at a conference this evening at the residence of the minister. The conference M. Timiriazoff refused to abate any of his conditions, which included guarantees of a change of government relative to the abandonment of repressive measures except as such measures may be necessary in order to cope with actual or contemplated disorder or riotousness and assurances that Minister of the Interior Dornovo should not be permitted to interfere with the executive of M. Timiriazoff's industrial program by wholesale arrests of workmen. To these conditions, which practically demanded the retirement of M. Timiriazoff, the minister refused to assent. He, however, urged M. Timiriazoff to remain in the cabinet for the short interval before the convocation of the national assembly, which he said, would be the responsible arbiters on all questions of policy.

DUCHESS ARRIVES IN BERLIN

Future Wife of Prince Eitel Frederick Reaches the Capital of Germany.

BERLIN, Feb. 26.—Duchess Sophie Charlotte of Oldenburg arrived in Berlin with her father from Oldenburg today in a drizzling rain. After lunching with the emperor and empress, Prince Eitel Frederick and other members of the imperial family at the small Bellevue palace, she drove with her grandmothers, the Kaiser's mother and the empress, to the imperial palace, cheered along the route by some hundreds of thousands of people. At the Brandenburg gate the duchess shook hands with the chief burgomaster and thanked him for the address of welcome which he delivered.

The procession was as brilliant as court equipages and cuirassed and helmeted guardsmen could make it.

ATTEMPT TO POISON BISHOP

Nitrate of Silver Found in Communal Wine Used by Venezuelan Prelate.

WILLEMSTAD, Island of Curacao, Feb. 26.—According to advices received here from Caracas, President Castro is greatly annoyed as the result of an unsuccessful attempt by an unknown person to poison the Most Rev. Dr. Juan Bautista Castro, archbishop of Venezuela, by putting into the archbishop's wine a great quantity of nitrate of silver in the communal wine on Sunday, February 18, which caused a great illness.

CASTRO WANTS ARBITRATION

United States is to Be Asked to Assess Damages Against France.

WILLEMSTAD, Island of Curacao, Feb. 26.—It is learned from official sources at Caracas, Venezuela, that President Castro's next move in the French question will be to call upon the United States to arbitrate the question of the amount of damage done by France in permitting the sinking of the ill-fated steamer, the Marconi, at Fort de France, Island of Martinique, to prey upon the Venezuelan trade and transport troops during the Marconi revolt. The United States claim against Great Britain in the case of the Alabama will be cited as a precedent.

DOLLIVER TO OPEN DEBATE

Iowa Senator Expected to Make Great Effort in Discussion of Rate Bill.

FORAKER TO FOLLOW FOR OPPOSITION

Iowa Delegation Meets and Passes Appropriate Resolutions on Death of Their Former Colleague, Ex-Speaker Henderson.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—(Special Telegram.)—On Thursday Senator Dolliver will make his long anticipated speech in the Hepburn railroad rate bill, which gives every promise of being the senator's greatest effort since he has been in public life. On Wednesday Senator Foraker will hold forth against the rate bill, which has two distinguished republicans to point the way in discussion on the Hepburn bill one of the greatest debates in the generation is confidently looked forward to.

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Congressman Norris Bereaved.

It became known today among the colleagues of Representative Norris that on Thursday night he was taken to the hospital to twin boys and the babes died within a few hours of their birth. Mrs. Norris was at the Providence hospital and is still in that institution. For several days her husband and friends despaired of her life, but today news from the bedside is reassuring and Mrs. Norris is now beyond all danger. Mr. Norris had the bodies of his twin sons cremated and their ashes will at a convenient future time be taken to McCook, Neb., for interment.

Iowans Deplore Henderson's Death.

The announcement of the death of ex-Speaker Henderson received with many expressions of sorrow on the part of those in the Iowa delegation, who had served with him in congress and likewise on the part of the members of the house generally. The Iowa delegation, with every member present, met in Senator Allison's committee room at 11 o'clock today to discuss the death and for an hour discussed his many-sidedness and told stories intimately connected with his career as soldier, lawyer and lawmaker. At the end of the conference Senator Allison announced that he had found impossible to secure a committee from the Iowa delegation to attend a funeral, in view of the press of public business, and that the Iowa delegation would send a floral tribute to Mrs. Henderson. Suitable resolutions were also adopted on the death of their former colleague.

War on Cattle Tick.

The agricultural appropriation bill will be reported today to the senate. Provision has been made for the extermination of the cattle tick, which is the alleged cause of mange in cattle and which has attacked the herds of the west to an alarming extent.

New Weather Bureau Stations.

The new weather bureau stations to be erected and equip the customary number of new buildings for the weather service. One of these will doubtless be located at Sheridan, Wyo. Representative Mondell has been trying for several years to secure such a building for Sheridan, but he has never been able to obtain a definite promise from Professor Moore, that he would build a station at Sheridan. The committee during the hearings, that the Sheridan station is needed and it will be erected beyond question this year, as the committee has granted all he asks for this purpose.

Differences Over Leasing Bill.

Members of the Nebraska delegation in congress are not a unit by any means as to just what the people of Nebraska desire in the way of land leasing bills. Delegations from neighboring states, particularly Wyoming and Colorado, are in favor of leasing, and opinion is growing that any bill on the subject, if it would succeed, must be applicable to Nebraska also. The people of Nebraska are greatly interested in the land leasing bills now pending in the house. They are writing to the Nebraska senators and representatives here, urging them to support such a measure. Mr. P. A. Yeast of Hyannis wrote a letter to Senator Millard setting forth the wishes of the owners of the people of Nebraska. The senator replied as follows:

"Acknowledging receipt of your letter without date, written at Omaha, will say: There is no legislation now pending in congress as well as the house and senate committees on public lands. The success of such legislation will depend on the leasing of grazing lands by the government and believe the best policy would be to sell the lands to the people of Nebraska, yet at the same time I have assured the cattle raisers of Nebraska that I would support any reasonable leasing measure, the provisions of which would promise to be of benefit to the cattle industry of Nebraska."

Minor Matters at Capital.

Representative Kennedy was today advised that the postmaster general has decided to appoint Frank Compton postmaster at Springfield, Neb., to succeed Horace T. Hoyt, resigned. Frank Compton was deputy postmaster.

The committee on claims of the house today decided to favorably report Mr. Kennedy's bill for the relief of former Postmaster Crow of Omaha. When Postmaster Crow retired as postmaster at Omaha his account did not balance by some \$1828, due to the defalcation of a clerk, and the bill of today credits his account with that amount.

Senator Warren today introduced a bill providing an appropriation of \$15,000 for finishing the story of the new publishing building at Cheyenne, Wyo. Representative Kennedy today presented in the house a petition signed by over 100 citizens of Fort Calhoun, Neb., protesting against religious legislation. This protest grows out of a bill which attempts strict enforcement of Sunday in the District of Columbia and the territories.

LAWSON WRITES LETTERS

Boston Promoter Tells Committee Real Insurance Thieves Have Not Been Touched.

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 26.—In a series of communications issued tonight Thomas W. Lawson of this city, who for several months has been active in securing proxies from policyholders in leading life insurance companies, states that he is ready and willing to do all in his power to aid in the passage of the laws recommended by the Armstrong investigating committee. Mr. Lawson issued three letters—one addressed to the Armstrong committee, another to the so-called committee of governors, to whom he has turned over all insurance proxies that he has thus far secured, and yesterday to the policyholders themselves.

Mr. Lawson informed the investigating committee that he has closely followed its entire work. "While I know it has accomplished much," continues Mr. Lawson, "I also know from personal knowledge it has not exposed or touched upon a single foundation evil or exposed or even placed upon the witness stand a single one of the head criminals responsible for the evil. From personal knowledge I know the policyholders cannot come into their own or be insured against the total destruction of their companies, and the loss, in whole or in part, of the funds which have in the past years been grafted from them unless their companies are taken out of the hands of the men who have either looted them or stood by while they were being looted."

Mr. Lawson adds that if the companies are turned over to "such honest, fearless men as the governors' committee will nominate for directors and trustees" all necessary reforms will follow.

Need for a Building.

Mrs. Thelen gave a compact history of the building movement, which she said was almost as old as the association itself. She explained how the organization had grown in membership and extent of work done since its founding in 1892 to the rank of sixth in membership throughout the United States and third in point of patrons of the noonday luncheon and number enrolled in the bible classes.

"The citizens of Omaha," said Mrs. Thelen, "will be asked to erect a building in behalf of the 6000 women working women of the city. There is nothing of the kind here now exclusively for women. We are very desirous of finding a man or woman to start the building fund by a contribution of \$1000 or \$5000, and we hope a number of our friends will contribute \$500 each. We are not going into this campaign with any apologies, for the need is not ours. It belongs to the city of Omaha. If there were any other way to secure this building, we would not call upon the people for it. The active campaign of the building will begin March 15 and continue one month. Everyone is to have the privilege in having a part in the work."

Conditions Along the Congo

Protest and Appeal from Fifty-Two Missionaries Against Awful State of Affairs.

BOSTON, Feb. 26.—"A protest and appeal" from fifty-two missionaries working on the Congo, setting forth the "present state of affairs in the country" was received in this city today simultaneously by the American Baptist Missionary union and by the Congo Reform association. Seventeen of the fifty-two signers are missionaries of the Baptist mission. The document expresses regret that the Congo Reform association is not in the Congo state, and we appeal, in the name of justice, liberty and humanity, to those who have these blessings to help in every lawful way to secure them for all the Congo people."

The nationalities represented among the signers were: Great Britain, Canada, Germany, Sweden, Norway and Denmark. The document was adopted at the third general conference of the missionaries at Kinshasa, Stanleyville, January 11.

A meeting of the Congo Reform association executive committee has been called for next Wednesday to discuss a plan of action in view of the protest.

CARNIVAL AT NEW ORLEANS

Rex Makes His Formal Entry Into Crescent City and Festivities Are in Full Blast.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 26.—Rex made his formal entry today, and carnival is in full blast. The streets were thronged by the parade were packed, and an immense multitude gathered on the levee to witness the naval parade and the landing of Rex. Tonight Proteus, in celebration of his silver jubilee, marking twenty-five consecutive parades, appeared in an exceptionally brilliant parade. A massed company of people filled the streets, and the illuminations were on a scale of great splendor. The changeable good chases as the title of the pageant "The Inspirations of Proteus," and in twenty strikingly handsome floats depicted scenes and tableaux from various subjects that day, to the effect of the state of affairs.

MORO OFFICIAL HAS ARRIVED

Treasurer of Province Comes to America to Interest Capitalists in Mindanao.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 26.—Fred A. Thompson, treasurer of the province of Moro, island of Mindanao, is here in the interests of that territory. His mission is to inform capitalists that the province of Moro has been granted a land law by the insular government under which it is permitted to sell or lease to any corporation which applies 2500 acres of land for the cultivation of hemp, rubber, sugar and the other plants and grain which may be raised in the island with profit.

Thompson leaves in a few days for Kansas City, Chicago, New York and Washington and hopes to interest many American capitalists in the resources and opportunities to be found in his island home.

NEW LOCATION

The Business Office

—OF—

THE OMAHA BEE

Will Hereafter Be in the

Ground Floor Corner

—OF—

THE BEE BUILDING

Seventeenth and Farnam Sts.

Y. W. C. A. BUILDING CAMPAIGN

Matter Fairly Launched at Banquet Last Night at Commercial Club.

LEADERS OUTLINE WORK AND PLANS

Needs of Local Association Explained and Words of Encouragement Spoken by the Prominent Citizens Present.

More than 100 representative men and women of the city were present last night at a banquet given in the Commercial club rooms by the officers and directors of the Young Women's Christian association as an aid of the preliminary to the campaign for the purpose of raising \$125,000 to build the new association building at Seventeenth and St. Mary's avenue.

The tables were arranged for groups and ornamented by cut flowers. Mrs. W. F. Harford, president of the association, presided, calling upon Mrs. George Thelen, Miss Helen F. Barnes, Mrs. Emma F. Byers, I. W. Carpenter, Edward Rosewater, Dr. Guy W. Wadsworth, J. E. Baum, F. W. Judson, Dr. W. O. Henry, Clement Chase, Thomas L. Kimball, Rev. H. H. Brown and Mrs. C. Conroy for short talks. As stated by Mrs. Harford, the object of the affair was to acquaint those present with the work and aims of the Young Women's Christian association and to get their co-operation in gaining the amount necessary to erect the building for which they had need.

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Outcome of the Times.

Miss Helen F. Barnes, national industrial secretary, said: "This year as it is probably the best year in our history for girls to be turned out into the world, but it is certain that women have become a great factor in the industrial and financial life of the nation. They manufacture practically everything a woman wears nowadays and many other things besides. Among the girls gathering in the state of affairs. Many of them would like to remain at home, but they cannot, and, out by themselves, it takes courage for girls to say 'No' to temptation. With the change of conditions have come changes in needs, and I believe it is God's plan that there shall be organized Young Women's Christian associations. The spirit of the association is not what a girl can get out of it, but that of co-operation and the rendering of help and assistance to her sister."

No Place to Go.

Mrs. Emma F. Byers, local general secretary, said: "There is scarcely a large building in this city that has not been searched for rooms large enough and suitable for the growing work of the association, but we were unable to find proper quarters. There seemed to be a voice crying out to rise and build. We have endeavored to respond to that voice. We find everywhere we go that friends are being raised up and I believe that by April 15 there will be enough of them found to make the building a certainty. Seven dollars a week is the average wage received by the 10,000 working women of Omaha. Many of them are making sacrifices to help us in this undertaking. They recognize the real need that exists for more room and proper accommodations. This association girls are willing to do their part."

Deserves Support.

Edward Rosewater said: "We who live busy lives are not able to keep in touch with all that is going on about us, and I am glad to be told of the work the Young Women's Christian association is doing. It is certainly deserving of unstinted encouragement and support from every citizen of Omaha. As for myself, I shall certainly do as much for it as I have done for the Young Men's Christian association. I rejoice in the fact that women are achieving industrial independence. Women should be in a position to be self-sustaining. In my own time I have seen the population of this nation increase 45,000,000, and with it all that is going on about us, and I believe in every calling. The new generation of women should be equipped to sustain itself if necessary, and at the same time strong enough to bear the physical ills to which women are subject. We want not only manual training schools for boys, but also

NEBRASKA WEATHER FORECAST

Fair Tuesday, Wednesday Fair and Warmer in Eastern Portion.

Table with 3 columns: Hour, Temperature at Omaha Yesterday, and Degree. Rows show temperatures for 5 a.m., 8 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m., 11 p.m., and 12 m.

MOYER WAIVES HEARING

Caldwell Grand Jury Will Begin Investigating Steenbergs Murder Thursday.

BORE, Idaho, Feb. 26.—It was decided tonight not to take Moyer and his fellow-prisoners to Caldwell tomorrow. That will be the sixth day since the first appearance for preliminary. Adjustments can be only for two days at a time, and the defense, by waiving the appearance tomorrow, waives the preliminary. This is because the case is going immediately into the hands of the grand jury. It is expected the latter body will begin work on the case Wednesday or Thursday.

Whether Orchard will be taken before the jury is not known yet. It has been made apparent that the state purposes to guard all its evidence jealously. This was emphasized by J. H. Hawley, in charge of the prosecution, when he met a party of the correspondents and local newspaper men last night. He stated positively that anyone attempting to secure statements from witnesses would be prosecuted. He was very emphatic on that point, insisting that the rule would be applied without discrimination.

It is said by attorneys for the defense that the men are being treated properly in the penitentiary; that they have been deprived of electric light, of sufficient clothing and soap and other necessities. Warden Hawley, in a statement tonight, denies this. The men are permitted to write letters, and they have been furnished all the clothing requested. Light was off for a time owing to failure of the power plant. The men exercised in the corridor, and were there together for more than an hour today. The warden states that he makes it his personal business to see that they are made comfortable.

AGAINST THE SCRIP SYSTEM

Officials of Colorado Fuel and Iron Smelting Companies Inveighed Against It in Colorado.

PUEBLO, Col., Feb. 26.—Following the action of the special grand jury Saturday night in returning indictments against officers of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company, the Colorado Smelting company and the American Smelting company for violation of the law in using the "scrip system" of paying their employees, capias were issued today by President F. J. Hearne and D. C. Beaman, attorney general for the fuel company, for compliance to violate the law, and against all the directors and officers of that company for actual violations. In its recommendations for proceeding against these companies the grand jury demanded that the attorney general of the state file one or more suits against the offending corporations for the purpose of revoking their charters.

Capias were not issued against the officials of the smelting company today for the reason that the evidence was thought to be insufficient to convict. Among the other indictments returned were those against officials of the alleged mad and grocery trust for criminal conspiracy in restraint of trade.

Work on Hard Coal Seals.

The negotiations for an agreement between the hard coal workers and the anthracite operators have been progressing smoothly. It is all outward appearances and arrangements have been made for a joint conference Wednesday between the sub-committees having the settlement of the differences in hand. With the anthracite negotiations well under way, President Mitchell has been devoting most of his time to bringing about a settlement of the differences in the soft coal regions. Mr. Mitchell has not announced any details of today's conference, nor did he say just when the call for the convention which will fix the place of meeting will be sent out. March 15, he believes, is the earliest date at which there is to be peace, the two weeks between the date fixed for the miners' assembly and April 1, when the present agreement with the operators expires, is sufficient time to bring about the desired result. Mr. Mitchell would not indicate what new propositions will be placed before the miners, but significance is attached to his statement that the operators at today's conference agreed that the convention should be called. Concessions, maybe on both sides, may be offered, and President Roosevelt is expected to be present at the convention as an additional reason for bringing about a new agreement.

Just Still Expects Strike.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 26.—Herman Just, counsel for the Illinois Coal Operators' association, gave out the following statement today with regard to the statement made Sunday by T. L. Lewis, vice president of the Mine Workers of America, to the effect that there would be no strike on April 1. He said:

"Inasmuch as neither our association nor the executive board has held any meeting since January 8, and inasmuch as the association at that time unanimously indorsed the action of the national scale committee in refusing to accede to the demands of the miners made upon the operators for an advance in wages, the statement of Vice President Lewis is most extraordinary and inexplicable. It looks to me like a shrewd maneuver, designed to stop the laying in of supplies of coal by large consumers, hoping thereby to create a scarcity of coal on April 1, and thus render practicable, if possible, Mr. Lewis' scheme to paralyze the industries of the country and thus bring pressure of public opinion to bear upon the operators, compelling them to yield to the demands of the miners for an advance in wages."

MUTUAL RESERVE GOES OUT

New York Insurance Company and Three Others to Quit Business in Missouri.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Feb. 26.—Four insurance companies notified W. D. Vandiver, the Missouri insurance commissioner, today that they would withdraw from the state March 1, when their present licenses expire. These companies are the Bankers' Life company of New York, the Mutual Reserve Life company of New York, the Compositian Life company of Freeport, Ill., and the Northwestern National Life company of Minneapolis.

The announcement of the withdrawal of the Mutual Reserve company of New York was contained in a letter from George D. Eldridge, the company's first vice president. Mr. Vandiver stated today that the withdrawal notices saved him the trouble of ousting the company from the state, as he had prepared the ouster order, and it would have been issued today had he not received this notice that the company would quit the state.

Movements of Ocean Vessels Feb. 27.

At New York—Arrived: Finland, from Antwerp; Carthage, from Trieste; Sheld, from Naples. Sailed: Basile, for Naples. At Hamburg—Arrived: Ruediger, from New York; Frederic, from New York. At Boston—Sailed: Patricia, for New York. At Gibraltar—Arrived: Koenig Albert, from New York. Sailed: Koenig Leto, for New York. At Bremen—Sailed: Mainz, for New York. At Naples—Arrived: Italia, from New York; Germania, from New York. Sailed: Deutschland, for New York. At Copenhagen—Arrived: Kaiser Wilhelm II, from New York. At Dover—Arrived: Kronlund, from New York; for Antwerp.

MINERS MEET AGAIN

National Convention Will Assemble at Indianapolis March 15.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AS MEDIATOR

Executive Asks Mitchell and Robbins to Make Another Effort to Agree.

EXTENDED CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK