

PROTEST COMES FROM MILLERS

Consider Bleached Flouring is Drawing the Quality of Flour. If Enforced Will Red of Nebraska Winter Water. SECRETARY WILSON STAYS PAT

Sioux City People Complain of Issuance of Passes Over Bridge. LAW AFFORDS THEM NO RELIEF. Number of Nebraska Arrive for the Inaugural. Among Them Chief Donahue and Victor Rosewater of Omaha.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, March 2.—(Special Telegram.)—Nebraska millers, and there are nearly 800 of them, according to recent statistics, are face to face with a situation that spells reduced prices for their flour unless Secretary Wilson modifies his recent order compelling Nebraska millers to mark their packages of flour "artificially bleached."

Dr. Wiley recently decided that where millers bleach their flour by electricity that packages in which flour is put up must show to the public the color was artificially produced. The winter wheat flour of Nebraska is yellow, whereas the spring wheat flour of Dakota and Minnesota is white. It is a well established fact that there is more nutriment in winter wheat than in spring wheat. But the flour eating public insist upon using white flour and in order to satisfy the tastes of consumers in this regard the millers of Nebraska have been artificially bleaching their flour by the use of electricity. This Dr. Wiley says they must stop unless they brand their goods as above outlined.

In consequence of this decision of Dr. Wiley, re-enforced by that of Secretary Wilson, Nebraska millers are up against a most serious situation. They are protesting with all their might against what to them seems a gross injustice, for they assert that the use of electricity in no wise affects the nutritious quality of Nebraska flour, which is becoming one of the leading flours in the eastern markets. The millers of Nebraska have requested their senators, Burkett and Brown, to do everything in their power to secure a modification of the order, which cannot help but have a result, a reduction in the price of Nebraska flour if they are not permitted to bleach it. The millers in droves are sending appealing letters to the senators pleading for their speedy action.

Wilson Stands Pat. Senators Burkett and Brown have been laboring with Secretary Wilson to secure some concession to the millers of Nebraska, but the secretary refuses to budge an inch. They have presented to him the suggestion of the millers that the nutritious qualities of the flour when bleached and when not bleached be left to a commission of expert chemists, but the secretary would not listen to the proposition. While he admitted to the senators that the question was one open to discussion he insisted that if flour was artificially bleached the sacks and barrels should be so marked in compliance with the pure food regulations.

A large number of chemists differ from Dr. Dr. Wiley that the use of electricity for bleaching has a deleterious effect upon flour. But Secretary Wilson is dead set in favor of his chief of the bureau of chemistry and unless some other method is taken to secure a modification of the order fear is expressed that the flouring mills of Nebraska will suffer the loss of thousands of dollars, as will the farmers of the prairie state due to an extremely narrow construction of the pure food laws.

Postoffice Site Selected. The Treasury department today, after considerable controversy, which has been going on for some time, decided the location of the site for the new postoffice at Huron on Dakota avenue. This is the site recommended by the special agent who investigated all the locations offered.

Chief Donahue in Washington. J. J. Donahue, chief of police of Omaha, is in Washington to aid Major Sylvester, chief of police of this city, in spotting criminals who may be attracted to the national capital during inauguration. Major Sylvester has requested the police chiefs from a number of the leading cities of the country to come to Washington and aid him in preserving order and protecting not only the residents, but the thousands of strangers from the criminal classes.

Explosion of Gas Endangers Many Entombed Miners

Twelve Men Are Badly Burned and Large Force is Carrying on Work of Rescue. WILKES-BARRE, Pa., March 2.—Twelve men were badly burned by an explosion of gas today in No. 14 colliery of the Erie Coal company at Port Blanchard, Pa., near here. It is feared several of them will die from their injuries.

Fire followed the explosion and a number of men are entombed back of the fire, but how many the officials of the colliery are unable to state. A large force of rescuers are at work. A section of hose has been run into the mine and with a full head of water the officials expect to get control of the fire in a short time. At 10 o'clock two men were taken out dead. The colliery, when working at its full capacity, employs 600 men; but that many were not at work when the explosion occurred.

There is considerable excitement about the mouth of the mine. Relatives of the entombed men are gathered in large numbers and their grief is pitiable to behold. The mine officials estimate that there are sixty men entombed back of the fire but they have not given up hope of rescuing them alive. Some of the employees who escaped believe that all the men will perish from suffocation. It is said the explosion was caused by a workman entering an abandoned portion of the mine with a lamp. All of the entombed men escaped through an old working shaft. Some, overcome by black damp, were carried to the surface by their fellow workers. The fire in the mine is still burning.

No Extensions, Says Harriman. Union Pacific Magnate Announces He Will Build No New Lines Under Existing Conditions. SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 2.—H. H. Harriman and party left early today for a trip over the western coast extension of the Mexican lines of the Southern Pacific. Mr. Harriman will return by way of California and will be in New York within two weeks, after several weeks "rambling out" near San Antonio. He said last night that his health is wonderfully improved; that he feels like a new man. He personally supervised the tearing down of his six tents and the party occupied apartments last night.

Mr. Harriman's parting message was that America may not expect any extension of his lines this year unless conditions change radically, and that he does not contemplate any, but he promises to make extensive improvements of existing lines. Steel Company Cuts All Wages. Lackawanna Concern Orders a General Reduction of Ten Per Cent for All Classes of Employees. NEW YORK, March 2.—A reduction of 10 per cent in the wages of practically every employe of the Lackawanna Steel company took effect today. The Lackawanna is one of the largest of the steel companies and this is the first announcement of a cut in wages from the independents since the war of prices with the United States Steel corporation began. The reduction effects all classes of employes and the office force.

MAN FOUND AT ALLIANCE LEFT HOME WITH BIG ROLL. Father of Leserve Says His Son Had Sixteen Hundred Dollars on His Person. BROKEN BOW, Neb., March 2.—(Special Telegram.)—Theodore Leserve, who was found unconscious in the yards at Alliance Monday morning, is a son of W. A. Leserve, a well known Grand Army man of this place. Young Leserve left here Sunday night on west bound train No. 4, carrying on his person, so his father states, \$1,600. He was accompanied by two companions, Roy Gallington and Frank Davis. When found it is said Leserve had only \$500 on him. Up to the present time Sheriff Kennedy has been unable to locate either Gallington or Davis.

What Charge to Hold Crooks On Perplexes Iowa Officials. The precise charge to be preferred against J. C. Maybray and his associates in the alleged swindlers perpetrated at Council Bluffs is a matter that is just now perplexing the authorities at Council Bluffs. At present only one indictment lies against Maybray and that is for larceny. The Iowa statutes make no provision for prosecution in swindling cases, particularly like those charged against Maybray and his gang. Just when Maybray will be brought to Iowa is not yet certain. Another question arises as to whether he will be brought on a state or federal warrant. The only hold that the federal authorities have on him is for using the mails for purpose to defraud and this charge hangs on a very slender thread. He is still in the custody of the federal authorities and until that federal authority is relinquished the state authorities cannot arrest him.

The hearing of the quartet of alleged swindlers now in custody at Little Rock is before the United States commissioner there and the only result, it is said, that could come from that hearing would be to bind them over to the federal grand jury at Council Bluffs. Under the state charge of larceny Maybray is amenable to bail in the sum of \$5,000, which the Council Bluffs authorities are led to believe he is ready to give at Little Rock. No further complaints have been lodged against Maybray and Dobbins in Council Bluffs than have been given publicity and it lies with the victims of the swindlers to file additional complaints in Iowa and

REVOLUTION IN FREIGHT RATES

Famous Spokane Case is Finally Decided in Favor of the Shippers. DECISION IS FAR REACHING If Applied in Principle It Will Affect Nearly All Interior Points. BIG REDUCTIONS ARE ORDERED Cut on Thirty-Four Commodities Range from Six to Ninety Per Cent. HILL EARNINGS ARE TOO HIGH On Basis of Original Cost Present Capitalization and Manner in Which it is Made, They Are Held to Be Excessive. WASHINGTON, March 2.—The railroad rates involved in the famous case of the city of Spokane, Wash., against the Northern Pacific and other railroads, were today held by the Interstate Commerce commission to be "inherently unreasonable."

The decision says the eastern rates to Spokane were higher than to Seattle, a more distant point. The commission reduces class rates from St. Paul to Spokane 15 per cent and makes substantially the same reduction from Chicago to Spokane. Rates east of Chicago are not dealt with. The decision, if applied in principle to all commodities and to all interior points, must work a revolution in rates from eastern points of origin to all interior transcontinental territory, and in that view it is one of the most far-reaching decisions ever rendered by the commission. The case has been under consideration for approximately a year and a half. For many months the commission has been endeavoring to reach a determination of the intricate points involved, but not until within a few days was an agreement possible. The unanimous opinion of the commission was prepared by Commissioner Prouty.

It is pointed out that nearly all commodities to the Pacific coast move under commodity rates and these were the principal subjects of complaint on the part of Spokane. Rates from all points on the Missouri river to Seattle are the same, while rates from the same points to Spokane are considerably higher. The commission increases as the point of origin lies further east. Illustrative of this condition complaint referred to thirty-one articles. The decision holds that the commission can fix the rates only upon the articles enumerated. The cut in rates ordered is horizontal and amounts in some instances to 50 per cent. In other cases the cut amounts to only 10 per cent. In the hearing of the case of reproducing the properties of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific, their financial history, their present capitalization and their earnings in recent years were fully considered.

Findings of Commission. The commission's findings in brief are as follows: The system of transcontinental rates now in force applies lower transportation charges from points of origin upon the Missouri river and east to Pacific coast cities than are applied to intermediate interior points; held, that this scheme of making lower rates for the more distant points is not necessary or justifiable; that the lower rates for the more distant points create a disfavorable condition of competition between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, and that the maintenance of the lower rates for the more distant points is not necessary or justifiable; that the lower rates for the more distant points create a disfavorable condition of competition between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, and that the maintenance of the lower rates for the more distant points is not necessary or justifiable.

Proceedings of the Senate. General Deficiency Bill Carrying Nineteen Million Passed. WASHINGTON, March 2.—The penal code bill on a conference report was before the senate during almost the entire session today and was subjected to filibustering tactics on the part of the minority that resulted almost in no progress being made upon it. Mr. Heburn, in charge of the measure, declared that the opposition to it was the result of antagonism to the legislative provisions contained in the measure for enforcement of the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the constitution on the part of the southern senators. The general deficiency bill was passed, carrying appropriations amounting to more than \$19,000,000. This bill was the last of the general supply bills passed by the senate. Various conference reports were agreed to, so that substantial progress was made in clearing away much of the business before the senate.

O'LAUGHLIN DECLINES PLACE Assistant Secretary of State Will Go Back to Newspaper Work at Once. WASHINGTON, March 2.—The following statement was made at the White House today: "Some days ago the president proffered the appointment as minister to the Argentine Republic to the assistant secretary of state, John Callan O'Laughlin. Mr. O'Laughlin has informed the president that he is regrettably compelled to decline the appointment, having arranged to associate himself with the Chicago Tribune."

Everything on the want ad pages from pianos to poultry, Speaking of pianos. some of our big piano firms tell about their best bargains on the want-ad page under the head of "Offered for Sale—Pianos." They know that want-ad readers look for real bargains there. Often they, or other people, have slightly used pianos, too, that may be bought for a fraction of what a new one would cost. Have you looked at the Bee want ads yet today?



From the New York Herald. THERE IS NONE ABOVE THE LAW.

SHIP SUBSIDY BILL LOST

Senate Measure is Defeated in House by Three Votes. CONFERENCE REPORTS AGREED TO Agricultural, Rivers and Harbors and Public Buildings Appropriation Bills are Disposed Of. WASHINGTON, March 2.—The ship subsidy bill, previously passed by the senate, was defeated in the house of representatives today by the narrow margin of three votes, the ballot registering 112 to 115. The opponents of the measure widely cheered.

Conference reports on the agricultural, rivers and harbors and public buildings bills were agreed to, and the sundry civil bill sent to conference. After disposing of a mass of miscellaneous conference reports on less important measures, the house, at 7:30 p. m., recessed until 11:30 a. m. tomorrow. PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENATE. General Deficiency Bill Carrying Nineteen Million Passed. WASHINGTON, March 2.—The penal code bill on a conference report was before the senate during almost the entire session today and was subjected to filibustering tactics on the part of the minority that resulted almost in no progress being made upon it.

Judge Holds for Standard Oil Co.

Formally Rules Only Thirty-Six Offenses Were Committed, Limiting Fine to \$720,000. CHICAGO, March 2.—Judge Anderson, in the retrial of the Standard Oil company of Indiana today formally sustained the judgment of the federal court that the government proceeded to trial on the theory that there were thirty-six alleged offenses—that is, that each settlement on which an alleged rebate was paid constituted a separate offense. The formal ruling was the same as was made by the court informally last week. Under it it will be impossible to fine the company more than \$720,000.

A motion to the effect that if any, the offense was a single continuing one, was overruled, although the court said he would hear further argument on the point later if desired. Roy Cunningham of Belvidere, Ill., is the only farmer on the jury. The preponderance of agriculturists on the first panel of veniremen caused its dismissal at the request of the defense, Attorney John S. Miller, remembering that it was a farmers' trial that made possible Judge Landis' fine of \$25,000. Mr. Cunningham's companions in the jury box include five grocers, a well driver, a retired jeweler, an advertising agent, a tailor, a mechanic and a live stock dealer.

Gay Crowds Throng Capital for Taft Inaugural Parade. WASHINGTON, March 2.—Pennsylvania avenue last night was as brightly lighted as "the great white way" and the happy throng which laughed its way along it for hours, reveling in the brightness and the gaiety, proclaimed the approach of the day when a new president of the United States will rule over the people of this country. From the capitol to the White House "the avenue" was festooned with arches of light which gave it the appearance of a vast hall a mile and a quarter in length and about 125 feet in width. Accommodations for fully 50,000 people have been provided for upon the stands which have been erected from a point just above the White House, along Pennsylvania avenue to the capitol. Every precaution has been taken to make the stands secure and ample provision has been made to make those who occupy them comfortable. The management are very perturbed over the possible contingency of ladies appearing with "meager widow" hats and while this form of headgear has not been officially tabooed, the "suggestion" has gone out that women should wear small hats or scarfs so as not to obstruct the view of those behind them.

For the convenience of the thousands of sightseers, the various places of historic interest in and about the city have been marked by suitable tablets. "Inauguration day, no prediction, but fair the day before," is the weather card today. When the first of the thousands of today's arrivals reached here they were greeted with a drizzling rain and unseasonably high temperature and the outlook dampened the enthusiasm for the day. But the weather bureau held out encouragement for dispersal of the clouds by tomorrow and all Washington hoped for a clear, fair day for the ushering in of the new administration. Up at the weather bureau, owing to the uncertainty of the forecast shifts at this time of the year, no forecast for Thursday was hazarded, but official prediction will be issued tonight and meantime there is nothing in the reports to indicate that the day will not be a fair one.

Acceptances of invitations have been received from the governors of the following states, who will participate in the inaugural procession: Braxton B. Comer, Alabama; George L. Lilley, Connecticut; Samuel S. Pennypacker, Delaware; James H. Brady, Idaho; B. F. Carroll, Iowa; Charles S. Deneen, Illinois; Augustus E. Wilson, Kentucky; J. T. Saunders, Louisiana; A. L. Crothers, Maryland; E. E. Draper, Massachusetts; E. F. Noel, Mississippi; H. R. Haskiey, Missouri; H. B. Quinby, New Hampshire; J. Franklin Fort, New Jersey; Charles E. Hughes, New York; Judson Harmon, Ohio; Edwin S. Stuart, Pennsylvania; A. J. Pothier, Rhode Island; G. H. Prouty, Vermont and George Curry of New Mexico.

Republic Will Be Next Target in Missouri Fight

Ohio Concern Has Not Paid Fine in Ouster Suit and State Will Move. JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., March 2.—The Republic Oil company of Ohio will be the next target of the attorney general's department in the oil ouster suits, according to announcement made today. The company, in common with the Standard Oil company of Indiana and the Waters-Pierce Oil company of Missouri, was fined \$50,000 in December last and a decree of ouster was entered against it by the supreme court of the state. The concern was given until March 1 to pay its fine, but as no return has been made efforts will be made to collect the money.

The company tried to withdraw from the state two years ago, but permission to do so was refused pending decision by the supreme court of the state. It is reported that the Ohio concern has no attachable property in Missouri. The Standard Oil company of Indiana did not pay its fine yesterday, but its motion for a rehearing and modification of the judgment against it stays the penalty until the supreme court acts upon the motion.

Tafts at the White House

President-Elect and Wife to Be Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt. GAME OF GOLF YESTERDAY Reunion of the Taft Family Will Be Held After Inauguration Ceremonies Are Over. WASHINGTON, March 2.—As the guests of President and Mrs. Roosevelt, President-elect and Mrs. Taft will be at the White House tomorrow night, going there for dinner and remaining. After the inauguration there will be a reunion of the white members of the Taft family at the White House. The details of the gathering and the time have not yet been arranged, although the entire Taft family will be in town tomorrow.

Charles P. Taft of Cincinnati, his wife and two daughters, one unmarried, the other the wife of Albert Ingalls, and her two children, are quartered at Connecticut and Massachusetts avenue, in a house taken by Mr. C. P. Taft for the occasion. Dr. William A. Edwards and Mrs. Edwards, who is the president-elect's sister, are here from Los Angeles and are at the New Willard to remain for the inauguration. Henry W. Taft, brother of the president-elect, his wife, daughter, Louise, and sons, Walbridge and William H., of New York, are also at the New Willard. Taft Children Arrive. Miss Helen, Mr. Robert and Master Charlie, the three children of the president-elect and Mrs. Taft, arrived here tonight and are with their parents at the Boardman residence, as is also Miss Della Torrey of Milbury, Mass., who is the only representative of the Taft family of the last generation. Miss Torrey is in her 83d year. She is a sister of Mr. Taft's mother and lived with his parents since his boyhood. There is a peculiarly strong affection between the incoming president and his maiden aunt. Her life has been an inspiration to him in a number of speeches he has delivered during his young manhood, particularly in his advice to them not to consider marriage the only object to be attained. To enforce this argument Mr. Taft has stated that the loveableness of character developed by self-sacrificing unmarried women has shown to him that there may be much in a single life.

Horace D. Taft, the other brother of Mr. Taft, and his wife, are here from Watertown, Conn., and are guests of Secretary Garfield of the Department of the Interior. The Garfield boys are students of the school maintained by Horace D. Taft, as is also Charles Taft, the youngest son of the president-elect. President-Elect Plays Golf. Mr. Taft enjoyed a golf game on the Chevy Chase course today, and said tonight he felt much better for his ride to the club and the four-mile walk entailed by the game. He defeated handily his opponent.

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LEGISLATORS IN A GREAT TANGLE

Parliamentary Mixup Over Bill to Close Saloons at Seven in the Evening. MEASURE FINALLY DEFEATED Ransom Holds Up Sink Bill to Whip Latter in on Charter. HALL COUNTY MAN DEFIANT Last Day for Introducing Bills Has Passed in Senate. BILL FOR GRAIN INSPECTION Oils of Valley, Who Fathers the Measure, Says It Will Be of Assistance to the Omaha Grain Market. (From a Staff Correspondent.) LINCOLN, March 2.—After a parliamentary tangle such as even this house has seen but on one other occasion, the bill by Johnson of Burt, requiring the closing of saloons at 7 o'clock, was recommended for indefinite postponement by the house, the vote against the bill being 46, to 44 for it.

In the committee of the whole the bill was recommended for passage by a vote of 40 to 39. The vote taken in the house was on a motion not to concur in the report of the committee and to indefinitely postpone the bill. A half dozen times there was a call of the house and equally as often the call was raised. While under the call, Taylor of Custer moved to adjourn until 1 o'clock tomorrow. On a point of order raised by Wilson of Polk the chair ruled the motion out of order. Others made the same motion and the speaker ruled them out of order. Then Taylor explained that he made the motion merely in order that every member should go on record on the bill. This brought forth a remark from Holmes: "The gentleman from Custer refused to vote the other day on a bill, and it comes with poor grace for him to try to put members on record."

Then Clark of Richardson made the same remark and the house laughed. All of this was going on, of course, while the roll call was stopped. Finally Taylor said, "Let 'er go! I will change in vote from no to ye, so I can move a reconsideration of the action in the morning." Vote on Postponing Bill. The roll call on the motion not to concur in the report of the committee of the whole, but to indefinitely postpone the bill, resulted as follows: Yes—Bates, Boland, Rodds, Butt, Chan, Clark, Douglas, Ely, Doherty, Egan, Fogarty, Fries, Gerold, Hattis, Hanson, Hector, Heffernan, Holmes, Hopedock, Howard, Johnson, Adams, Kelley, Kooser, Kraus, Lawrence, Ledigh, Lutz, Murphy, McVicker, Pickens, Pinger, Ritchie, Rothman, Sells, Shoemaker, Sink, Skeen, Siedman, Stocker, Swan, Taylor, Taylor, Custer, Thomas, West, Mr. Speaker—46. No—Armstrong, Baker, Barclay, Barrett, Beggs, Black, Blystone, Coffey, Crowder, Broecker, Brown of Sherman, Brown of Lancaster, Bushes, Byland, Cooper, Easton, Evans, Greig, Griffen, Grover, Henry, Humphrey, Johnson of Burt, Kilien, Kuhl, Marlett, Miller, Moore, McColl, Neyses, O'Connell, Owsen, Raper, Scharner, Schoettger, Smith, Taylor of York, Taylor of Hitchcock, Wilson, Worthing, Young—44.

The argument offered in opposition to the bill was "home rule." Shoemaker, who delivered the principal speech against the measure, said the democratic party had promised the people home rule, and now was the opportunity to make good. Under the present law, he said, every community has the right to regulate the saloons and say just when they shall close and open. There is no occasion, he said, for the state to pass a general law on the subject. "If you believe in home rule," said Henry of Holt, "do you favor county option?" "County option is not home rule," declared Shoemaker in such heat. "If we give home rule to the people of this state we will leave the laws so that every community has the right to regulate these matters as they choose."

Taylor Takes Shot at Douglas. Taylor of Custer, told the house he had heard so much about home rule from Douglas county that he had seriously considered introducing a bill which would provide that none of the bills passed should apply to Douglas county. He then proceeded to tell the members that no bill passed but what it did in some way curtail the liberties of some one or the other of our citizens. During his speech against the bill, Boelts of Merrick county, made some remarks about a higher civilization, recalling the time Boelts blew out the gas shortly after his arrival here. Kuhl tried to stop the debate, but his motion was ruled out of order and McCall insisted that it be kept up indefinitely for the lack of harmony among the democrats, he said, was music to the ears of the republicans.

Ransom Threatens Sink. As a reminder to Senator Ransom or for other reason, when the stock yards bill came up in the house this afternoon, Ransom and Shoemaker of the Douglas delegation both voted for it and Douglas failed to vote. The bill will now go to the senate where it will remain until something happens to the Omaha charter bill. Incidentally Sink of Hall county was informed today by two senators that unless he voted for an elective police commission in Omaha his bid sheet bill would be hung up indefinitely in the senate. Sink sent word back to "hang 'er up and take the consequences," but he would not be bluffing into saddling an elective police board onto Omaha. The Tanner charter bill has been held up by the house committee on cities and towns for at least one week. When the measure came up before the committee this afternoon Jerry Howard proposed several amendments, and while these were being discussed Sink of Hall received word that his sheet bill was being held up in the senate until he got right with the Douglas senators on the elective police commission for Omaha. Sink then got busy and moved that the next hearing on the South Omaha charter bill be set for Wednesday of next week. The committee agreed to this. Last Day for Bills. Today was the last day for introduction of bills in the senate. The total number was 607 as against 448 introduced two years ago. The total number of bills in the house this year is 437, making a total of 1,044.

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