

NEW HAVEN RAILROAD REFUSES TO PRODUCE RECORDS AND PAPERS

Attorneys Deny Right of Interstate Commerce Commission to Investigate Financial Dealings.

SUIT WILL BE FILED AT ONCE

Court Will Be Asked to Order Witnesses to Testify.

MANY MILLIONS ARE INVOLVED

Witnesses Refuse to Tell of Deals with Billard Company.

TWO BANKERS ON THE STAND

Intimations That Billard Company Controlled New Haven System by Means of Dummy Directors.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Mandamus proceedings to compel the production of books and papers to disclose financial dealings between the New Haven railroad and the Billard company will be started immediately by the Interstate Commerce commission.

Chief Counsel Folk stated that he would bring the proceedings, probably at New Haven. His decision came at the end of a morning of examination of witnesses who refused to answer questions intended to develop evidence of dealings involving millions of dollars. On the advice of their attorneys they denied the right of the Interstate Commerce commission to inquire into the financial affairs between the company and the railroad.

When the hearing adjourned there was a probability that the testimony of Charles S. Mellen, former president of the New Haven system, might be delayed to await the outcome of the mandamus proceedings.

Purpose of Inquiry.

The inquiry, under the direction of Commissioner McChord, is being made in compliance with a senate resolution directing the commission to develop all facts regarding the New Haven's banking connections, the purchase of its subsidiary properties, the money paid for them and the emoluments or commissions paid for negotiating the various transactions.

Mr. McChord announced that the principal subject to be considered at present was the relation of the Billard company to the financial operations of the New Haven. Walker D. Hines, counsel for the present management, said at the opening that it was the policy of Chairman Elliott and the present management to co-operate in every way with the commission and furnish all information.

Harry V. Whipple, president of the Merchants' National bank of New Haven, Conn., the first witness, refused to testify as to his business relations with the Billard company. He said he was not now a stockholder in that company, but had been up to last fall.

"To whom did you sell your stock in the Billard company?" he was asked. "I must decline to answer that question because I regard it as an invasion of my personal rights," replied Whipple.

Railroad Felt Commission.

Judge Stoddard, counsel for the New Haven, explained Mr. Whipple's declination to reply.

"We challenge the rights and the jurisdiction of the commission," said he, "to inquire into any act of the Billard company. Our contention is that such an inquiry would be beyond the scope of the commission's authority. Acting on that conclusion we have decided to decline to answer questions relating to such matters."

"Was there any relation between the Billard company and the New Haven during your incumbency as treasurer of the Billard company?" Mr. Whipple was asked.

The witness again declined to answer, by advice of counsel. "Suppose," suggested Chief Counsel Folk of the commission, "that it can be shown that the Billard company owes the New Haven railroad many millions of dollars, do you think that it would be desirable to conceal this fact, in view of the desire of the senate for the information?" "I think, interrupted Judge Stoddard, (Continued on Page Two.)

General Endorses Military Training Camps for Students

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Major General Leonard Wood, chief of staff of the army, today sent out to school superintendents all over the country a letter endorsing the student military instruction camps to be held during the coming summer.

Alluding to the fact that these camps have the hearty endorsement of President Wilson and former President Taft, as well as leading educators, General Wood says:

"Knowing the benefit of a certain amount of military training to a nation and that in the United States such training can only be obtained by voluntary effort and that the great majority of young men are unable to afford this training, as given in the various military schools and colleges, the secretary of war has decided to establish four student military instruction camps during the coming summer, to which students 18 years of age, or members of the graduating classes at high schools through the country, are eligible to attend; this at the minimum cost for food and clothing and transportation.

"These camps are of great value, not only to the student from a physical and educational standpoint, but to the nation, in that it spreads among its citizens a considerable amount of sound military information and increases by just that much the number of partially trained men who would be available and greatly needed in time of emergency."

The camps will be held at Asheville, N. C.; Burlington, Vt., and Ludington, Mich., from July 6 to August 7 and Monterey, Cal., from June 23 to July 31. The University of Illinois, with fifteen students enrolled for camp at Ludington, leads all other institutions.

Hail, Wind and Frost Damage Crops in Central Florida

OCALA, Fla., April 10.—Hail and wind storms, accompanied by a sharp fall in temperature last night, did many thousands dollars damage to vegetables and citrus fruits throughout central Florida.

Orange groves and melon and tomato fields suffered severely. Southern Florida, however, where the bulk of the peninsula citrus fruits are produced, experienced only a cool rain. Frost in the state was confined to the northwestern section, where crops were not sufficiently matured to suffer materially.

The heaviest loss was in this section, which was swept by a storm of cyclonic proportions. Houses were unroofed, windows broken and several large orange groves destroyed. The melon crop in this and adjoining counties, the center of the melon belt of Florida, is believed to be almost a total loss.

MACON, Ga., April 10.—Damage to fruit in Georgia's peach belt after last night's low temperatures was small, according to advices received today. Near freezing weather was recorded in many places, but a brisk wind protected fruit trees on high ground and frost was experienced only in the lowlands.

Higgins Pleads Guilty to Charge of Wife Murder

GALESBURG, Ill., April 10.—Robert Higgins pleaded guilty in the Macer county circuit court today to the indictment charging that he murdered his wife. Higgins asked for the mercy of the court.

Julia Fluke, Higgins' step-daughter, for love of whom he was said to have killed his wife, was not arraigned. Her attorney, D. A. Hebel, certified to the authenticity of a confession by the girl, in which she accused Higgins of killing her mother.

The second count in the indictment of Higgins, concerning his relations with Julia Fluke, was dismissed. The state began offering evidence in confirmation of Higgins' plea. S. R. Gates, deputy sheriff, testified that Higgins signed in his presence a confession of guilty.

Judge Ometstead said he would pronounce sentence next Tuesday, but gave no hint as to the punishment he will impose on Higgins. The state's attorney asked the court not to inflict the death penalty.

Clay Model for Hay Monument Finished

NEW YORK, April 10.—James E. Fraser, sculptor, has completed his clay model for the monument to John Hay, which is to be erected by the Hay family in Lake View cemetery, Cleveland, O., in memory of the diplomatist and statesman, who was secretary of state.

The monument is being carved in stone and will be placed over the grave last year in the spring. Near the site are the James A. Garfield monument and the Rockefeller mausoleum.

The figure, which unites strength with grace, stands with arms folded on a pillar across which is laid a heavy sword, which typifies the executive ability of Mr. Hay. The head, covered with a green helmet, is borne in meditation and the impression is that of strength held in perfect control by judgment. The figure is emblematic.

President's Party at White Sulphur

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, W. Va., April 10.—President Wilson, with Mrs. Wilson and members of their family, arrived here early today to spend Easter. The president plans to return to Washington Monday.

At the hotel Mr. Wilson and his family were shown to their apartments without ceremony. On the same train with the president were the Princeton university musical club which will give a concert tonight. At the hotel where the president is staying are Mrs. John W. Gates, Mrs. John Jacob Astor and her sister, Miss Katherine Force.

Horseback riding, driving and golf are the principal diversions, extended motoring being impossible on account of the mountain roads.

REBS NOW HOLD TWO SUBURBS OF TAMPICO

Battle for Possession of Mexican City is Reported to Be Still in Progress.

TWO WOMEN REPORTED HANGED

Are Executed for Trying to Release Prisoners from Cuartel.

REBEL IS ALSO PUT TO DEATH

Constitutionalist Killed for Having Bullets in Possession.

ADMIRAL FORWARDS REPORT

Large Oil Tank is on Fire and the Burning Oil is Pouring into the River—All Foreigners Safe.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Continued fighting at Tampico, with great damage to the valuable oil property there, was reported to the State department and Navy department today in dispatches from the warships on the Mexican coast.

An official statement at the State department described the situation as to the oil properties this way:

"Several oil tanks have been struck, one is on fire and oil is running into the river. A number of refugees are on the warships."

The fighting at Tampico was described as heavy, with the rebels in possession of Dona Cecilia and Arbol Grande.

Rear Admiral Fletcher reported that Rear Admiral Mayo had delivered another letter to General Zaragoza about the shots fired into the Pierce oil plant from the federal gunboats. Grave fears are felt here that there may be wholesale destruction of the properties.

Assurance was received that all American women and children have been gathered into places of safety.

Two Women Reported Hanged. Latest reports to the Navy department were summarized in this statement:

"At 5 p. m. Thursday Admiral Mayo reported from Tampico to Admiral Fletcher at Vera Cruz that there had been but desultory firing since daybreak. Two women have been reported hanged for attempted to release prisoners from cuartel. A constitutionalist prisoner has been reported hanged for having bullets in his possession."

"At 10 p. m. Admiral Mayo reported further that there was a lull in the fighting during the afternoon. The Vera Cruz moved up to the vicinity of Toluca road at 3 p. m. and did some firing. There also was fighting in trenches near Altamira. Admiral Mayo has delivered another letter to General Zaragoza, relating to damage by gunboats to the Pierce oil plant. An oil tank at Arbol Grande was on fire at 5:30."

Women and Children Safe. "Sixty women and children have been taken on board the Dea Moines and all American women and children have been brought up from points on the river below the city, except at La Barra. Those who were there have gone aboard the German tanker Osago. Admiral Mayo emphasizes that refugees desire refuge, not removal."

Secretary Daniels said this morning that he had not been informed of the issuance by Admiral Mayo of any ultimatum to the federal commander at Tampico to cease firing from the gunboat into the city.

Monterey is said to be quiet.

Two Huertales Executed. NOGALES, Sonora, Mex., April 10.—Standing blindfold on the brink of graves open to receive their bodies, Francisco Fimbres and Jose M. Ganobon, members of a Huertal junta on the American side of the line, were executed in the cemetery here at dawn today by a firing squad. Fimbres was captured several days ago while carrying a message from the junta to Ganobon, who was then at Montezuma.

Catholics Issue Their White List of Plays

NEW YORK, April 10.—The Catholic theater movement, an organization which investigates plays to determine what is good for Catholics to see in theaters, issued today its first "white list" of entertainments in the form of a printed folder called "The Bulletin," which will be sent to Catholics throughout the country.

The Bulletin names in its "white list" 135 plays produced during the last twenty-five years, the titles ranging from plays of ancient memory to some of the latest New York successes. In February last a dozen plays were named by the movement as examples of those which would be placed upon the "white list." Of the 135 plays named in the list only five of them are now being played in New York.

The National Capitol

Friday, April 10, 1914.

The Senate. Debate was postponed until Monday further hearings on the Panama tolls exemption repeal.

Senator Chamberlain received a letter from President Wilson endorsing the proposal to send an American army engineer to China in reconnaissance and flood work in China.

Debate was begun on the administration bill to conserve radium lands.

The House. Met at noon. Debate was begun on the omnibus pension bill.

Squash Center Comments on Canal Tolls

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Copper country locals of the Western Federation of Miners decided today to take a referendum vote on the question of calling off the strike which has been waged here since July 23, 1913.

The vote will be taken next Sunday and its result announced on the following day.

The action of the locals resulted from reports of the district officers, which were submitted to five meetings held in various parts of the strike district. It was said that the district officers informed the men that no more concessions could be expected from the mining companies. It was also stated that the union rank and file was told that the companies have inaugurated a substantial eight-hour day and have arranged to hear grievances once each week. Recognition of the union, they say, has been steadfastly refused.

DENVER, Colo., April 10.—"The action of the Michigan locals of the Western Federation of Miners to take a referendum vote on the question of ending the strike meets with the entire approval of the federation officers," declared Charles J. Moyer, president of the organization, today.

Boys Asphyxiated by Fumes from Fire Which They Built

NEW YORK, April 10.—Three small boys crawled into a moving van in a vacant lot in Harlem last night, stopped up the cracks to keep out the chill, then snuggled around a fire they kindled in a bucket.

Patrick Kenny, father of one of the little fellows, searching for him, looked into the van today. He found his son, Frank, unconscious; John Scanlon, 15 years old, was dead, and the third boy was apparently dying. Gas from the bucket fire had asphyxiated them.

Seal Pelts Are Seen Floating in Sea

ST. JOHN, N. F., April 10.—Seal pelts thought to have come from the missing sealing steamer Southern Cross were sighted today seventy miles south of St. Mary's bay by the steamer Kyle, which has been searching the coast for a week.

This is the first definite clue to the fate of the vessel, which was last reported off the southern coast on March 21.

It is believed the pelts either were washed from the decks of the sealer or floated to the surface after it went down. None of the sealing fleet which came in last week from the St. Lawrence grounds lost any skins in the vicinity of St. Mary's bay.

Four More Illinois Counties May Go Dry

CHICAGO, April 10.—Four more Illinois counties and twenty-five additional cities and towns will be the scene of wet and dry elections on April 21.

An effort to prevent the closing of the saloons in many of the cities, villages and townships which voted dry at the local option elections last Tuesday, until after the supreme court passes on the constitutionality of the woman suffrage act, will be made by the wets. It is announced today.

Complete returns from Tuesday's elections indicated that the votes of the women were responsible for many of the dry victories. The supreme court is expected to act on the constitutionality of the suffrage act some time before May 1.

SMITH MUST GIVE ACCOUNT

Clerk of District Court Called to Prove \$8,500 Fee Ownership.

DEMAND CASH BE RETURNED

County Commissioners Bring Suit, to Be Tried on April 20, Asking for Accumulated Receipts.

Robert Smith, clerk of the district court, must render an accounting on April 20 for \$8,500 naturalization fees retained by him during his two terms in office or show cause why he does not owe Douglas county that amount, according to an alternative writ of mandamus just signed by District Judge Sears.

This mandamus suit, begun by the county attorney by instruction of the Board of County Commissioners, is a part of its legal campaign against what the members of the board call the "fee graft." The board twice carried the fight against the sheriff's prisoner feeding "graft" which added to his salary, brings him nearly \$100 a day, to the state supreme court. Though the board was defeated in the sheriff's case through the action of the supreme court in declaring unconstitutional a part of a new statute and allowing the remainder to stand, its members feel confident that the suit against Smith will be successful.

Their confidence is based partly on a decision of the United States supreme court in a similar case arising in San Francisco, that the county may compel the clerk to turn over naturalization fees collected by him. It is said that alleged pre-election promises made by Smith that he would not attempt to withhold the fees from the county may enter into the suit.

Hires a Woman to Help

Since the Board of County Commissioners several weeks ago instructed the county attorney to bring suit against him, Clerk Smith has hired a young woman to do a part of the clerical work connected with the naturalization fees. Prior to this the naturalization work was all done by county employees in the clerk's office and the county received no compensation. At one time an employee of the county did several weeks' steady work making a naturalization record for Smith. Some of the clerical work is still done at intervals by the county's stenographers while practically every person who takes out naturalization papers secures them from Smith's deputies, whose salaries are paid by the county.

Last spring Clerk Smith was absent from the court house for several weeks, appearing there only rarely, but the naturalization work went on as before under the care of county employees. His defense to the county's suit is that he is a federal and not a county officer so far as the naturalization work is concerned.

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RESERVE COMMITTEE DEFENDS ITS ACTION IN LOCATING BANKS

Asserts New Centers and Districts Will Not Make Much Difference, Anyway.

BUSINESS IN SAME CHANNELS

Zone Suggested by Omaha Declared Generally Against Gate City.

NEBRASKA HAD TO BE K. O.'S

"Inadvisable" to Relate Cornhusker State to Chicago.

SOMEBODY OBLIGED TO JUDGE

Members of Board Complain that Critics Reveal Misunderstanding of Situation—Talk of Disappointment.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—The federal reserve bank organization committee tonight issued a statement defending its choice of reserve bank cities and definition of reserve districts. It was the first official answer made to criticisms voiced in congress and heard from cities which sought reserve banks, but failed to get them. For the first time some of the data used by the committee in reaching its conclusions was made public.

Particular attention was given to the committee's reasons for choosing Atlanta, Ga., and Dallas, Tex., in preference to New Orleans; for selecting Richmond, Va., instead of Baltimore, and for naming Kansas City instead of Denver, Omaha or Lincoln. The committee called attention to the fact that since thirty-seven cities were applicants and only twelve named twenty-five had to be disappointed.

Somebody Had to Judge. "With so many conflicting claims," said the statement, "somebody had to judge. Congress constituted the committee a court and gave the federal reserve board the power of review. Disappointed competitors should seek a remedy through the orderly process that the law prescribes."

"Critics of the decision of the committee reveal misunderstanding and either do not know or appear not to know that the federal reserve banks are bankers' banks and not ordinary commercial banks; that they are to hold the reserves and to clear the checks of member banks in certain open market operations. As a matter of fact, the ordinary every day banking relations of the community, of business men and of banks will not be greatly modified or altered."

"Every city can continue to do business with individuals, firms or corporations within its own limits, or in its own region, or in any other part of the world or the world in which it has heretofore done business."

Is "Simply Misleading." "Reserves are to be held in a new way and in new places, so far as this country is concerned, but banking and business generally will not be confined within the districts thus heretofore, and it is simply misleading for any city or individual to represent that the future of a city will be injuriously affected by reason of its failure to secure a federal reserve bank. Every city which has the foundations for prosperity and progress will continue to grow and expand whether it has such a reserve bank or not, and well-informed bankers, especially, are aware of this."

The statement showed that the committee's poll of national banks applying for membership in the system favored Dallas and Atlanta over New Orleans in that part of the south and southwest which was included in the district decided upon. It showed that the capital and surplus of national banks in Atlanta was greater than in any other city in Dallas was less, but that in both Dallas and Atlanta the loans and discounts and individual deposits were greater than in the Louisiana city.

Choice of Richmond. Discussing the choice of Richmond, the committee pointed out that banks in South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia preferred that city to Baltimore or Washington and declared that it was thought unwise to locate another reserve bank close to the one decided upon for Philadelphia. It was also pointed out that seven statements to the comptroller of the currency showed on January 13, 1914, that the national banks of Richmond were lending twice as much money in the district eventually created as Baltimore and Washington combined.

In support of its choice of Kansas City the committee said that Montana, Idaho, Arizona, Texas and Nebraska opposed Denver and that the majority of banks in a tentative district suggested by

(Continued on Page Two.)

Bank Organization Committee Will Not Make Any Changes

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Protest against including Hudson county, New Jersey, in the Philadelphia regional reserve district instead of the New York district, was made to Secretary McAdoo by Representatives Hamill and Kinkaid.

Some protests from banks in Jersey City and other towns along the Hudson river have been received at the treasury.

Mr. McAdoo told the congressmen that the relation of New Jersey banks with New York would not be disturbed by the fact that they had been put in the Philadelphia district except that their reserve will be kept at Philadelphia instead of at New York. He made it plain that the organization committee had no intention of revising the list of twelve districts and cities recently announced.

Protests may be heard by that committee, but the only hope to those who asked changes is in the federal reserve board yet to be appointed by President Wilson.

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Write to the Bureau of Advertising, American Newspaper Publishers' Association, World Building, New York, for information about what other manufacturers are doing successfully along this line.

The Weather

Forecast till 7 p. m. Saturday: For Omaha, Council Bluffs and Vicinity—Unsettled, possibly showers; somewhat cooler.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday.

Table with 2 columns: Hours and Degree. Shows temperature fluctuations from 54 to 64 degrees.

Comparative Local Record.

Table with 2 columns: Date and Degree. Shows historical temperature records.

Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal.

Table with 2 columns: Deficiency and Excess. Shows precipitation and temperature deviations.

Normal precipitation for the day.

Normal precipitation for the month.

Normal precipitation for the season.

Normal precipitation for the year.

Normal precipitation for the month.

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Normal precipitation for the month.

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