

## RAILWAY INQUIRY IN WASHINGTON

Excessive Labor Costs and Working Conditions Chief Causes of Trouble.

### NO CONTROL OVER EXPENSE

Prices and Wages Fixed by Government Leave Little Scope for Management.

Washington, D. C.—In testifying before the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce in the general investigation into the railroad situation, witnesses for the railroads contended that:

(1) The costs of operation are abnormal, owing chiefly to wage scales established by the government which exceed wages paid for similar work in other industries, and to wasteful labor costs, often for work not done, enforced upon the railroads by the so-called "National Agreements."

(2) That 97 1/2 cents out of every dollar of operating expenses in 1920 were at prices fixed directly by the government, or by general market conditions and over which the railroad managements had no control.

(3) That the general business depression was not due to the high freight rates, but to the lack of buying both here and abroad.

One of the most striking facts brought out in the testimony presented by the first witness, Julius Kruttschnitt, chairman of the board of directors of the Southern Pacific, was the following, in explanation of the chief reason for the increase in operating expenses since 1916:

"The labor bill of the carriers in 1916 (which was before the Adamson law took effect) stood at \$1,468,576,394. In 1920 it was \$3,698,216,351, an increase of \$2,229,639,957.

"The increase by years since 1916 has been as follows:

Increase in 1917.....	\$270,905,748
Increase in 1918.....	874,331,209
Increase in 1919.....	229,315,081
Increase in 1920.....	855,087,919
or an aggregate increase since 1916 of.....	\$2,229,639,957

Exhibits were placed before the committee showing that for the railroads of the whole country, increased expenses in 1920 over 1919 were as follows:

Actual expenses for 1920.....	\$6,163,138,341
Actual expenses for 1919.....	4,667,774,131
Inc. for 1920 over 1919.....	\$1,495,364,210

Mr. Kruttschnitt, in showing how little control the railroads had over necessary expenditures, said:

"Sixty-four cents out of every dollar of operating expenses were, in 1920, paid out to labor, and the wages of labor are fixed by the government.

"Fifteen cents out of every dollar of operating expenses was paid for materials and supplies at prices fixed by the government.

"Three and one-half cents out of every dollar was paid for other expenses incurred by the government in the first two months of 1920.

"A total, therefore, of 82 1/2 cents out of every dollar of operating expenses for 1920 was paid out at prices directly fixed by the government.

"The remainder, up to 97 1/2 cents, was for materials and supplies, purchased at prices fixed by general market conditions and beyond the power of the railroads to control."

To illustrate how labor costs were inflated by the "National Agreements" entered into during federal control, the following examples were cited:

1. The Pere Marquette Railway was compelled to pay \$9,364 in back pay to four employees because their titles under these agreements were changed by a decision of the Director General, while the nature of their duties and the volume of their work remained the same.

2. A car repairer on the Virginian Railway was paid \$1,000 for work he never did. He was laid off with other employees because there was no work for him to do. When he became entitled under his "seniority rights" to be re-employed, he received back pay and overtime.

3. The Shop Crafts Agreement provides that when employees are required to check in and out on their own time they will be paid for one hour extra at the close of each week, no matter how few hours they may have worked. This rule in the first six months of 1920 cost the railways \$4,500,000, or at rate of \$13,000,000 a year.

4. On the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad piecework car repairers decreased 41.4 per cent and airplane repairers 34.4 per cent in efficiency under a guarantee of a fixed minimum rate per hour.

5. On the abolition of piece work on the Union Pacific Railroad in the wheel shop at Omaha, Neb., the time required for the same work was increased 31.9 per cent and the output was cut down 24 per cent; and in a coach-cleaning yard at Denver the time required was increased 38.8 per cent and the output decreased 28 per cent.

6. Southern Pacific employees, whose sole duty was to keep watch on stationary engines and to stop the engine in case anything went wrong, were reclassified by Director General as "electrical workers," one man on the Salt Lake division being given back pay of \$2,381, another \$2,084, another \$2,009, another \$2,003, and six others amounts varying from \$1,500 to \$1,990.

7. Under the present classification rules of the shop crafts, in order to change a nozzle tip in the front end of a locomotive it is necessary to call a boiler maker and his helper to open the door, because that is boiler maker's work; to call a pipeman and his helper to remove the blower pipe, because that is pipeman's work; and call a machinist and his helper to remove the tip, because that is machinist's work; also for the same force to be employed for putting in the new tip.

Questioned by Senator Poindexter, Mr. Kruttschnitt stated that these instances might be increased indefinitely and were characteristic of railroads of the country, as a result of the "Agreements" left over from federal control.

## WAS HAVEN FOR MANY BANDITS

Unsolved Mysteries of Dead Man's Canyon Attract Numerous Tourists in Summer.

Pierre, S. D.—One of the most weird spots in all the West is what is known as Dead Man's canyon, situated in the Salt river valley in northeastern Wyoming, a comparatively short distance from the South Dakota boundary line and within easy reach of the Black hills. The canyon, which has been brought within easy access by highways, is each summer something of a mecca for those who love unsolved mysteries and, in the history of the canyon, are given tragic events to ponder over.

Dead Man's canyon was named about 40 years ago when a hunter, plodding through the snows of the early autumn, stumbled across the body of a man. Investigation was



Came Upon a Corpse.

carried on for months, but the identity of the dead man never was established.

Years slipped away without the peace of the canyon being broken. Then came the year 1888, which is still marked by the memory of the pioneers. In the autumn of that year "Buck" Hamby, a Kansas outlaw, who had vowed that he would never be taken alive, was taken—and buried. Hamby, with his partner had come over the trail from Kansas, driving before them a bunch of stolen cattle. They started in the cattle business.

Hamby was sought in Kansas for the murder of two men. A warrant arrived for A. B. Armstrong, sheriff of Crook county, to serve. Armstrong and his deputy, "Jim" Swisher, sauntered into a barroom and carelessly asked the group to drink. Hamby took the drink, and as he did he was "covered" by Armstrong and Swisher. Later, Hamby broke prison and returned to Wyoming. Swisher went to the outlaw's dugout and arrested him. However, Hamby tried to make good his boast and attempted to draw his gun. Swisher pulled first and fired a shot through the bandit's body.

Months rounded into years and then came another tragedy. A hunter passed through a section of the canyon and came upon a corpse. The body was found only recently. Efforts thus far to identify the dead man have been unavailing.

It is feared that the latest tragedy will, like the first, be recorded in the history of the canyon, and remain unsolved.

### "You Need Money More Than I," Said Burglar

Some burglars have a heart, according to Mrs. W. A. Kerr of New Castle, Pa. When confronted by a burglar in the early morning hours, Mrs. Kerr told him she had only \$5 and that her husband was sick and she needed the money for him. "I guess you need the money more than I do," said the burglar, who left the house without taking anything.

### LOST 70 POUNDS BEATING HIM

Wife's Reducing System Wins Decree of Divorce for Chicago Man.

Chicago.—After testifying that his wife had reduced from 210 pounds to 140 pounds by beating him during their seven years of married life, Louis Weiss Becker was granted a decree of divorce by Judge Sabath of the superior court.

"She weighed 210 pounds when we were married, but after seven years of fighting she weighed only 140 pounds," Becker told the judge.

### Boy Saved Sisters From Mad Dog

Burgaw, N. C.—When a rabid dog attacked his two sisters on their way home from school, Lon Carr, nine years old, grasped the animal about the neck and threw it to the ground. Although bitten in five places, he refused to let go until help came.

## AUDITORIUM

AUDITORIUM, SATURDAY, MAY 21

### THE LITTLE FOOL.

By Jack London  
Both men loved her and she loved both but even the wife whose life had been one round of flirtations realized that such a situation could not continue and that she would have to make a choice. A domestic tangle where the husband maintains a friendly neutrality.

Also Charles Hutchinson, in DOUBLE ADVENTURE.

MONDAY, MAY 23

Who's the boss in your home? Do you prefer a cave man lover who thinks he owns you, or one you can twist around your finger? Look them over with — MILDRED HARRIS in THE INFERIOR SEX.

A drama of love and intrigue dealing with problems of courting days, the honeymoon and wedded life.

A First National Attraction  
Admission 10 and 20c.

TUESDAY, MAY 24

Constance Binny in THE MAGIC CUP

A sort of Cinderella was Mary Molloy, only she worked as scullery maid in a big New York hotel, and it was a lively young cub reporter who played the roles of fairy godmother and Prince Charming both in one.

Also Ruth Roland - in - THE AVENGING ARROW.

THURSDAY, MAY 26

Enid Bennett in HAPPY THO MARRIED

The bride suspected that her husband was a cynic and did not really love her; and the photograph she found seemed to indicate "A PAST". But things wasn't so bad as she thought.

Also A FIRST NATIONAL COMEDY — "Meeting all Trains".  
Matinee, 2:30 Night, 7:30  
Admission 10 and 15c.

## Philip's Bakery

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WHY BUY BREAD OUT OF TOWN WHEN YOU CAN GET MORE BREAD AND BETTER BREAD FOR THE SAME MONEY AT YOUR HOME BAKERY?  
?

## Philip's Bakery

### NOTICE—SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

North Carolina, Transylvania County, In the Superior Court.

Rachel A. Payne vs. Marion (J. M.) Mull and wife Julia Mull.

The defendants above named and each of them will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Transylvania County, North Carolina, to enforce the specific performance of the contract of the said defendants for the conveyance of the lands described in the complaint filed in this cause, and to divest all the right, title and interest of the defendants in said lands in the plaintiff; and the said defendants will further take notice that they and each of them are required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Transylvania County, N. C., on the 28 day of May, 1921, at the Court House in Brevard, N. C., and answer or demur to the complaint filed in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This the 27 day of April 1921.  
N. A. MILLER, Clerk Sup. Court.  
run May 27. c. D. L. E.  
4tc. Bank.

## Your Farm Is Your Factory

Perhaps you never thought of it in just that way, but farming is a great manufacturing business and your farm is a factory in the true meaning of the word.

The factory manager overhauls his plant every so often and to make sure that it will run properly and produce the most goods at the least cost. In just the same way, the farmer checks up his buildings and equipment, makes those little repairs which save big repairs later on, and builds whatever buildings he needs to help produce more crops with less labor and expense.

Lumber prices are back to normal. No longer need you postpone building on account of high prices of lumber. Now is a good time to build that new barn you have been wanting for several years and to make other improvements. Begin now and get them done before Spring work commences.

Here in our business we are trying to do our part in bringing conditions back where they ought to be. Our years of business experience, our building plans and ideas, and our friendly, sincere counsel and assistance are at your service for the asking, with no obligation, of course.

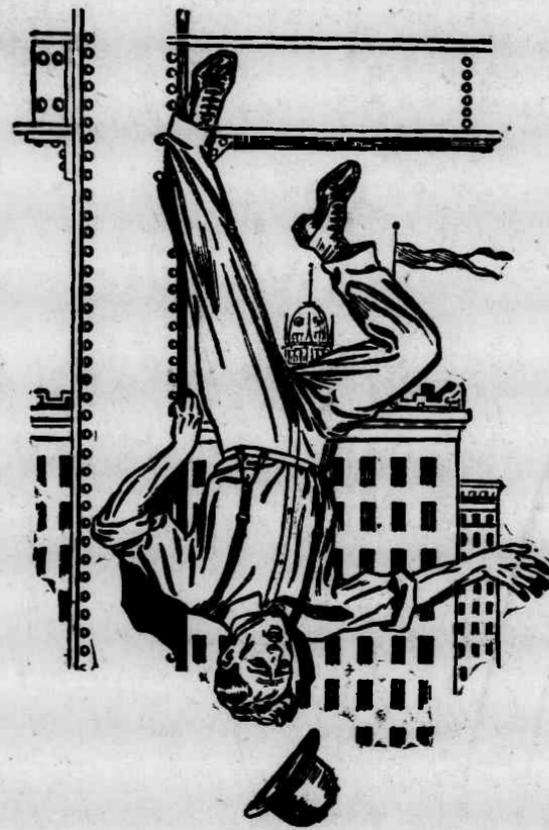
Let's talk it over the first convenient day.

## Miller Supply Company

J. A. MILLER, Manager.

BREVARD, N. C.

## A Great Downward Revision In Our Prices



Especially in Men's Hosiery, Underwear, Shirts. Our Crown Special Overalls, Which Previously Sold at \$3.50, Now \$2.00. Also selling a good line of Overalls at \$1.25.

We want to call your attention to the young men's line of shirts with collars attached. They will be all the the rage this season at prices from \$2.50 up to \$3.00. We invite you in to inspect them.

## Standard Clothing Company

Main Street

Brevard, N. C.