

TRAFFIC IS FAR FROM NORMAL

But the Philadelphia Transit Co. increased the Number of Cars in Operation Today.

SYMPATHETIC STRIKE NOT REGARDED AS A "BLUFF"

Taking the Proposed General Strike Seriously the City Officials Are Planning to Increase the Police Force.

Philadelphia, March 1.—The Philadelphia Rapid Transit company again increased the number of cars in operation today.

More cars are running today than at any time since the strike began. The public patronize them more liberally.

City officials do not regard the proposed sympathetic strike as a "bluff," and are planning an increased police force in anticipation of further trouble.

In spite of the constantly increasing number of demands by religious bodies and others that arbitration be resorted to settle the strike against the Philadelphia Rapid Transit company, officials of that company declared last night that no proposition looking toward arbitration in any form is being considered by the board of directors.

There were very few disturbances along any of the lines of the company today and an increased number of cars left the various barns. Heavy rain which fell last night kept the crowds from the streets and the most complete after-dark schedule in effect since the strike began was run on all lines until midnight.

Talk of Arbitration. Many labor leaders still hope that public sympathy will force arbitration before the general strike voted for yesterday goes into effect on Saturday.

In addition to the many organizations here, members of out of town labor organizations in the country are expected to reach here in time to participate in another meeting of labor chiefs which will be held on Wednesday night.

It is possible that the general strike order may be changed at that meeting to become effective immediately in many trades.

Mayor Beysburn said last night that the situation had materially improved during the day, and that he was confident the Rapid Transit company and the men would get together for an amicable settlement if outsiders would leave well enough alone.

Statement From Pratt. C. O. Pratt, the leader of the carmen, said yesterday afternoon: "One reason why we deferred the general strike until Saturday was to give the workmen an opportunity to go to their employers and emphasize the necessity of arbitration. If the employers do not see fit to try to bring about a settlement of the matter then we must assume the task of siding with the faction which is attempting to crush organized labor, and that their agreements with their workmen are no longer binding."

Although the Philadelphia Rapid Transit company refuses to accept proffered arbitration, it is reported that the National Civic Federation will endeavor to settle the trolley strike.

The local Methodist Episcopal and Lutheran ministers at their usual weekly meetings adopted resolutions urging immediate arbitration of the trolley men's strike.

STEEL TOWN UNDER POLICE PROTECTION

Fearing Attacks from Strikers Only a Few Men Reported for Work at Bethlehem Today.

South Bethlehem, Pa., March 1.—Fearing attacks from strikers or sympathizers, only a small percentage of the 9000 employees of the South Bethlehem Steel company reported for work today. The town is quiet, but is under heavy police protection.

WATER'S RISE CHECKED. Danger Passed in Pittsburgh Section—Worse Over in Cleveland Vicinity.

Pittsburg, March 1.—With the river a foot below the flood stage and rising almost imperceptibly the danger from the extreme high water is now past.

Most Dangerous Period Now Passed. Cleveland, March 1.—The high water which flooded several towns and impeded traffic, causing two lives, receded today. The most dangerous period has passed.

Fowler's Hurt Is Not Serious



Managua, Nicaragua, Feb. 28.—The injuries of Captain Godfrey Fowler, the American who commanded Chamorro's batteries of Maxim's, and was wounded at the engagement at Tisma, are not serious, and he is being cared for at the hospital at Tipitapa.

As soon as he recovers he will be brought to Managua and held as a prisoner of war. Captain Fowler is the only American known to have been wounded at Tisma.

MR. DICKINSON IS AFTER MONOPOLY

Has an Eye on Pacific Mail Steamship Company and Harriman Trans-continental Lines.

Washington, March 1.—Secretary of War Dickinson proposes that the anti-trust laws be invoked to break up the monopoly which the Pacific Mail Steamship company and the Harriman trans-continental lines have on business between the Pacific coast ports and the Isthmus of Panama.

When it was suggested that suit be under the Sherman law might fail because of lack of proof that the steamship company, operated as an independent line, would be considered a competitor of the Southern Pacific railroad, members of the senate committee on inter-oceanic canals discussed the advisability of recommending legislation that would reach the merger.

The hearing Saturday was held in order to give the secretary of war opportunity to answer the criticism of Senator Brewster that the government was giving aid to the trans-continental railroads by not encouraging the establishment of an important line on the Pacific coast as proposed by B. N. Baker of Baltimore.

Secretary Dickinson produced the proposed contract to show his understanding of the offer. It indicated that the company was to have an exclusive contract and many other favors that Mr. Dickinson said could not be granted under authority vested in him or any other member of the president's cabinet.

The statement had been made by Mr. Dickinson that he had practically been coerced by a serious situation into consenting to the demand of the Pacific Mail for 70 per cent. of the joint rate. The Pacific Mail had threatened to withdraw its ships and if this had been done he said it would have left the government line without an outlet on the Pacific coast.

"If the ships on the Pacific side had been withdrawn I felt that my position would have been indefensible and therefore I was forced to accept the terms offered by the Pacific Mail," said the secretary.

"Did you ever make an investigation to determine whether the Pacific Mail is controlled by the Harriman lines?" asked Chairman Flint.

Mr. Dickinson replied that he had seen President Schwaner of the Pacific Mail only once and they had had an unimportant interview.

Schwerner insisted, he said, that this steamship line was independent of the Southern Pacific and upon that point they could not agree.

Several senators pressed the secretary of war for his opinion of the surest way to break up the Pacific Mail monopoly. He said that the surest way would be for the government to build up ships and operate them, but he would not say that such a course would be the wisest way. He said that the question was a legislative one and that he did not care to endorse government ownership.

"We sent for you to tell us what to do," said Chairman Flint. "That, I think, is what you would do if you were a senator."

"Probably we have been trained in different political schools," said the secretary, "but I have never believed it was the duty of the government to furnish means of transportation. I have not believed it wise for the government to engage in that business which can best be done by individuals."

PINCHOT STILL ON THE STAND

Letter Written by Mr. Taft to Him September 13 Is Read, Creating Quite a Good Deal of Interest.

GLAVIS "DISINGENUOUS," WAY TAFT SIZED IT UP

Pinchot's Charges of Falsehood Based on a Letter Written by Ballinger's Partner to Dr. Lyman Abbott.

Washington, March 1.—Gifford Pinchot's examination by the Pinchot-Ballinger congressional inquiry committee was continued today.

Probably the most interest centered around the production of a letter written by President Taft to Mr. Pinchot September 12, 1909. Mr. Taft, in this letter, denounced Glavis as "disingenuous," warned Pinchot against making Glavis' cause his own, declared he was sorry Pinchot did not have the same confidence and trust in Ballinger as he did, and declared that controversies between departments at Washington must cease.

He referred to an alleged interview with Ormsby McHarg, in which he is reported to have said that "Theodore Roosevelt must have thought himself the lord."

What He Bases Charges On. Pinchot announced to the committee that he based his charge that Secretary Ballinger had been guilty of making statements to the president that were "absolutely false in three essential particulars" not upon the letter from Ballinger himself, but upon a letter written by J. T. Ronald, Ballinger's former law partner, to Dr. Lyman Abbott.

Pinchot added that three statements in the Ronald letter, which he asserted was false, were previously covered by the letter written by Ballinger to the president, in which Ballinger admitted that what Pinchot stated was true statements of fact.

CREATE INTERSTATE COMMERCE COURT

This Action, Favored by the President, Was Taken Yesterday by House Committee by Close Vote.

Washington, March 1.—By a majority of two, the house committee on interstate commerce voted to create the interstate commerce court, which is one of the principal features of the Townsend administration railroad bill. This is in the provision for which the president and attorney general have been fighting to have kept in the bill. The vote in the committee was 20 to 18.

The committee adopted with minor amendments the first six sections of the Townsend bill, all of which relate to the court, and had just reached the seventh section, relating to tariff agreements, when it adjourned. It will take up the bill section by section and probably be able to order a favorable report on the bill by the latter part of this week. An important amendment adopted by the committee was a section of the Mann bill referring to classification.

A FIREMAN IS INSTANTLY KILLED

While Fighting Fire in a New York Building He Fell Ten Stories in an Elevator Shaft.

New York, March 1.—While fighting a disastrous blaze in a twelve-story structure on Murray street this morning, Henry Burgess, a fireman, walked into an elevator shaft and dropped ten stories. He was instantly killed.

TWO MORE BATTLESHIPS VOTED BY HOUSE COMMITTEE

Washington, March 1.—The house committee on naval affairs voted today for the construction of two battleships, one repair ship, two fleet colliers and four submarines.

New Government Building.

Washington, March 1.—A bill appropriating \$12,000,000 for the construction of a building for the state, justice, and commerce and labor departments in Washington was favorably reported to the senate today.

THE PRESIDENT MAKES ANSWER

He Allows to Be Published a Letter Written Him by Mr. Pinchot and His Reply Thereto.

MR. TAFT IS STILL STANDING BY BALLINGER

Ballinger People Say Mr. Pinchot Will Not Be Allowed to "Run Wild" While on the Witness Stand.

Washington, March 1.—Swift answer was made to the charges made by Mr. Gifford Pinchot before the investigating committee that Secretary Ballinger had "willfully deceived the president."

President Taft himself said that the charge was false. There were obtained copies of letters passing between Mr. Pinchot and the president bearing upon the questions at issue in the inquiry. These will later be introduced as evidence.

It was made apparent in several ways that Mr. Pinchot as a witness in the proceedings which reached the high water mark of interest as he took the stand, will not be allowed to "run wild" in his allegations against Secretary Ballinger. Great interest is aroused by the decision of Secretary Ballinger to take the stand in his own behalf. This is regarded as an excellent move by his supporters.

Pinchot Letter Quoted. Here is an extract from a letter addressed by Mr. Pinchot to President Taft on November 4, 1909: "When I saw you at Salt Lake City in September little mention was made of the Glavis matter, but we discussed the recent relations of the interior department to conservation at some length. I expressed the belief that you had been misinformed as to certain of these relations, and my fear that later on, when the present intense public interest had subsided, unwise tendencies might reappear and the public welfare might suffer."

"It was agreed between us that I should write you this letter describing the facts as I understood them. You then gave an authorized statement to the press and I also made a short statement to the effect that I should continue unchanged my efforts to promote and defend the conservation policy, especially as to the control of water power monopoly, and the use of our institutions, laws and natural resources for the benefit of the people. Your own purpose to support the conservation policies you had declared so clearly that all men must now understand it. It goes without saying that I understand and accept and that nothing in this letter questioned that purpose."

"The following are illustrations of what I believe to be Secretary Ballinger's friendly attitude toward conservation."

Cites Alleged Hostility. Here references are made to the Cunningham coal claims in Alaska, forest range stations, water power sites, forests on Indian lands and reclamation.

The remainder of the statement which Mr. Pinchot made to the committee on taking the witness stand, "It is a little less free in its criticism. Secretary Ballinger is accused of being unfriendly to reclamation and other forms of conservation. His information given to the president is referred to as 'not accurate.'"

"My recollection is that I told you I concurred with Secretary Ballinger in thinking there was no authority to make such wholesale withdrawals and that that was the reason I had concurred in his recommendation."

"As Ballinger's view in regard to this matter confirms this instruction of statutory powers and I cannot admit that a difference from Mr. Garfield's view in this regard argues in any way an act of unfriendliness on the part of the present secretary toward the general policy of conservation."

"I am bound to add that you have not by anything that you have suggested in your letter shaken in the slightest my confidence in Secretary Ballinger's good faith, and in his earnest and hearty co-operation in carrying out the policy of conservation. In so far as that policy lies within the jurisdiction of his department, I do not ask any further correspondence on this subject unless you insist on it. I wish to renew my earnest desire that you remain as chief forester and continue the work you have been doing, and that you assist me by using your influence to prevent further conflict between the departments."

"I do not know that there is any necessity for my taking up your recital of the facts except to state my disagreement with you in respect to what you call 'illustrations' of what you believe to be 'Secretary Ballinger's unfriendly attitude toward conservation,'" wrote Mr. Taft. "I have a much better opportunity than you. Continued on page four."

THE WEATHER.

Forecast for Asheville and vicinity. Unseasonably warm and somewhat unsettled weather, with occasional showers to-night and Wednesday.

"Fingy" Connors Still a Winner



WILLIAM J. CONNORS. The picturesque New York politician who has won his fight to remain an chairman of the democratic committee.

THE PRESIDENT MUCH CONCERNED

Members of Congress Showing Little Interest in Administration Measures and Conference is Called.

Washington, March 1.—President Taft today called a meeting of the leading Republicans to estimate the legislative prospects of the various administration measures pending in congress. It is understood the president feels much concerned about their passage.

After a preliminary conference with President Taft today leaders of congress announced that they would oppose all amendments to the several administration bills when it was approved in a spirit of hostility to the main purpose of legislation. The discussion at the White House had special reference to the interstate commerce bill.

LAW HELD TO BE CONSTITUTIONAL

Judge McLemore, at Norfolk, Renders Decision This Forenoon in Case Arising Under Hepburn Act.

Norfolk, March 1.—Circuit Judge McLemore, in the first case arising in Virginia under the Hepburn act, held the law constitutional in that the shipper could recover from the initial carrier for losses sustained on connecting lines.

MURDERER OF ENGINEER HOLT WAS RECAPTURED YESTERDAY

Durham, N. C., March 1.—Solomon Shepard, convicted of the murder of Engineer Holt and sentenced to thirty years in the penitentiary and who escaped last week, was captured forty miles west of here. By stealing two horses, Shepard made the trip in which he was caught. A posse of citizens armed with shot-guns captured him and he was identified by an officer.

REGENT'S BROTHER COMING. Chinese Prince Too Will Head Commission Visiting Japan and the United States.

Peking, March 1.—Prince Too, the regent's brother, will head a government army commission which leaves next month, for the purpose of visiting Japan and America.

Gaynor Saves Two Million; Hard Lines for Tammany

New York, March 1.—Mayor Gaynor has effected a saving of two millions dollars annually since coming in to office.

Patten, Having Made Pile, Is Now Going to Quit

Chicago, March 1.—"I've made my board of trade operator, just before his departure for Europe this morning. This announcement did not fail to interest the street."

ELECTION YEAR IS AGAIN HERE

First Whisperings of Spring, as Usual, Bring This Fact to Mind—Some Aspirants for Office.

BUT TWO STATE CONTESTS ATTRACTING ATTENTION

But There Is Plenty of Interest in District Politics and Buncome County Election.

With the advent of spring has also come increased activity and discussion in the democratic camp in particular and politics in general. The primaries are not now very far distant and democrats are beginning to be concerned as to whom they will choose for the different places on the state, district and county tickets. Perhaps the only contests that will attract considerable attention in the makeup of the state ticket will center around the office of associate justice of the supreme court to succeed Judge Connor—resigned—and the place of corporation commissioner.

For the former place Judge W. K. Allen will contest the honor in the state primaries with Judge Manning, who was appointed to the office by Governor Kitchin. Already the contest has grown to be at least interesting. Judge Manning's friends are holding up to the state democracy the governor's endorsement, while Judge Allen's friends point to the fact that the appointment is supposed to be temporary only and until the people could themselves choose a successor to Judge Connor; that in the primaries and before the people Judge Manning should have no special prestige or advantage by virtue of the governor's appointment.

Judge Allen has held courts in every county in this part of the state and is extremely popular with the bar of the section and with the people generally. For Corporation Commissioner.

For corporation commissioner Samuel L. Rogers of Macon county and W. T. Lee of Haywood will be among those in the running from present indication. Many democrats in the district will no doubt be embarrassed over this contest. Mr. Rogers has made a most acceptable official to all the people of the state, and his discharge of the duties of this important and exacting office has reflected credit upon himself and his party and it is pointed out that his years of service in this capacity and his acquaintance with the work make his renomination, his friends contend, important to the business interests of the state.

Teenth district was for Lee of Haywood, and that since this honor is one to be asked for at the hands of the entire state democracy, the wishes of this section should be ascertained and an undivided effort made to land the office.

The Congressional Race.

In the Teenth congressional district the democratic pot is boiling. So far the contest for the democratic nomination between Messrs. Chaffert, Moore, Cudger, Hewitt and Cooke has assumed no bitterness that has come to the surface. The contest between these democrats has up to the present been waged upon the plane of friendly rivalry. Each of the candidates has elements of strength in which the others are lacking and it is agreed in the democratic household that any one of them would be acceptable to the party generally. It is strongly contended by Mr. Cliche's friends that so far as superficial appearances go at least he is in the lead.

Of the fifteenth judicial district situation there has been little talk by the democrats. Judge Joseph R. Adams will be nominated to succeed himself of course, but the place of solicitor on the ticket will likely bring on a lively contest. No democrats has yet been elected in this judicial district but the democrats, relying upon local republican dissensions and what they term a general country-wide dissimulation, make no secret of their hope to land this time their nominee.

County Affairs.

In Buncombe county it is the evident purpose of the democrats to place their very strongest men upon their local ticket—men who can get votes and fill the offices efficiently. They are already casting about for their legislative ticket and no doubt they will offer at the general election some strong names.

The strictly local offices have received most consideration already from those politically-inclined. For clerk of the court Marcus Erwin will stand for re-election. Mr. Erwin's large majorities in the general elections and his efficiency in the office encourage his friends to predict another victory for him in the primary and at the polls. Contesting this place with Mr. Erwin, however, will be Gallatin Roberts, an admitted desecrating young democrat who is

(Continued on page 2.)