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REDUCTIONS IN EXPRESS RATES

Ordered by Interstate Commerce Commission Will Approximate \$26,000,000 a Year.

SWEEEPING CHANGES ARE ALSO ORDERED

"Block System" Is Prescribed Which Will Greatly Reduce the Number of Rates.

By Associated Press.
Washington, Aug. 4.—Reductions in express rates which will cost the companies fully \$26,000,000 a year, approximately 16 per cent of their gross revenue, were ordered by the interstate commerce commission today to become effective on or before October 15, 1913. Notable reforms in practice also were ordered.

The most important change prescribed by the order is by way of modification of the present graduated scale of parcel rates. One hundred pound rates for short distances either have been left unchanged or slightly reduced; for longer distances they have been lowered; for 50 pounds or less all rates have been practically reduced. For packages more than four pounds going more than 200 miles and less than 1000 the new express rates are generally lower than the parcel post rates, for more than 2000 miles the rates are practically the same.

The report and order of the commission prepared by Commissioner John H. Marble are a virtual affirmation of the findings of former Commissioner Franklin K. Lane, now secretary of the interior.

By prescribing a so-called block system, dividing the United States into 950 blocks, averaging 2500 square miles, an originally proposed by Mr. Lane, 900,000,000 different rates now published by the express companies will be reduced to less than 550,000, and the interstate commerce commission believes that the system points the way to a solution of the existing made of freight rates.

Companies May Test Order.

The general impression in official circles is that the express companies will attempt to test by legal means the constitutionality of the commission's order.

The requirement of the order of June 8, 1912, that a label shall be attached to each parcel is modified to the extent that, in case of shipments of perishable property, consisting of two or more packages, the label need be attached to only one package.

The express companies had filed statements indicating that the losses of revenue under the proposed rates would be intolerable and argued strenuously and that the establishment of the parcel post had deprived them of about 30 per cent of the revenue they formerly received from parcels of 11 pounds or less. They contended that the express companies could not survive the losses from both sources.

Six Years of Hearings.

The decision of the commission, deferred as it has been for more than a year, followed an investigation that occupied nearly six years of hearings, special examinations of accounts and reports covering in detail the various phases of the express business. Nearly a carload of books and papers have been filed and are a part of the proceedings in this case.

A WOMAN FOUND DEAD WAS DRESSED AS MAN

Identified as Mrs. Zeb Patton—May Have Fallen from Freight Cars.

Dressed in a pair of overalls, coarse brogan shoes and a man's shirt that was torn and very much soiled, the body of Mrs. Zeb Patton, wife of Zeb Patton, formerly of West End, this city, was picked up on the tracks of the Southern railway near Smith's bridge this morning about 5 o'clock and brought to the undertaking establishment of Noland-Brown company, where it was identified by relatives. The neck was broken.

So far as can be learned no one saw the woman prior to the accident that caused her death and it has not been determined how she met her death, although a freight train passed the spot where she was found just about 30 minutes before her body was discovered by George Couts, who resides near the scene of the accident. The woman looked to be about 47 years of age, and it is understood that she had been separated from her husband for some time and that she had been living in Knoxville for several weeks. She has relatives living in Wayneville who will doubtless claim the body today. It is stated that her husband, Zeb Patton, is in Cincinnati. Owing to the fact that the body was found dressed in the rough and stained shirt of a man, it is believed by many that the woman was traveling her way on a freight train and in some way fell off and was killed by the fall.

CHARGES REDUCED WEIGHT INCREASED

Changes in Parcel Post System to Be in Effect August 15.

By Associated Press.
Washington, Aug. 4.—Further to popularize the parcel post system with the public, Postmaster General Burleson today announced that after August 15 the weight limit on packages would be placed at 20 pounds, and that a sharp reduction in charges for the transportation of packages would be made. The limit on packages is now 11 pounds. The postmaster general announced also that on the same date the "banking by mail" feature would be introduced into the postal savings system.

The reduction in charges on parcel post matter for local delivery is from the present rate of five cents for the first pound and one cent for each additional pound, to five cents for the first pound and five cents for each additional two pounds or fraction thereof. For delivery in the first zone, the rate will be reduced from five cents for the first and three cents for each additional pound to five cents and one cent for the second zone, the rate will be put from six cents and four cents to five cents and one cent for each additional pound.

The change in the postal savings system will enable would-be depositors living in remote districts to avail themselves of the benefits of the system. The reform has been under consideration for some time.

OFFICERS KILLED BY HOP PICKERS

Five Companies Sent to Wheat Land, Cal., to Quell Rioting Strikers.

By Associated Press.
Sacramento, Cal., Aug. 4.—Five companies of the California national guard today are policing the hop fields of Wheatland, in Yuba county, where four men died and eight were badly wounded yesterday in a clash between striking hop pickers and a sheriff's posse.

The strikers, led by Industrial Workers of the World, organizers, still are in an ugly mood, but Adjutant-General E. A. Forbes expressed the belief that if he could prevent a meeting of the strikers and some bands of armed citizens who last night were intent upon vengeance, there was not likely to be further demonstration.

The news of the death of District Attorney E. T. Manwell and Deputy Sheriff George Voss and others of his posse spread rapidly through the farming country last night and volunteer posses were organized from every community to take a hand.

The militia did not reach the scene until nearly daybreak, and in the meantime several hundred armed civilians had poured in from every direction.

BOLT HITS PAUL HELD BY GIRL, WHO SURVIVES

Lightning Plays Queer Pranks at Farmhouse—Mica Company Charactered.

Special to The Gazette-News.
Raleigh, Aug. 4.—A charter was issued today to the National Mica company, Macon county, authorized capital \$100,000, with \$50,000 subscribed by Edwin G. Shepherd, Kalamazoo, Mich., Henry G. Robertson, Frank B. Benbow, Franklin.

The corporation commission today released its report on the result of the railroad conference and will present it tomorrow to the governor.

Lightning Sunday drove three holes through a tin pail held by a baby girl at E. H. Holcomb's farm near Raleigh, knocked off a large section of wood work in the house, burned five feet of bell-rope, jumped from tree to tree, and otherwise disported itself. No body was hurt.

22 COAL MINERS DIE AS SHAFT GETS AFIRE

By Associated Press.
Glasgow, Scotland, Aug. 4.—Twenty-two coal miners perished in a fire which broke out last night in the Mavis Valley pit of the Cadder colliery near here. The bodies were recovered today.

RESIGNATION IS ACCEPTED

Bryan Announces Termination of H. L. Wilson's Duties as Ambassador, Effective October 14.

DISAPPROVES COURSE OF REPRESENTATIVE

Says Envoy's Activities Make It Difficult for Him to Represent the Administration.

By Associated Press.
Washington, Aug. 4.—Secretary Bryan today announced the acceptance of the resignation of Henry Lane Wilson as ambassador to Mexico.

Secretary Bryan made the following statement:

"Ambassador Wilson's resignation has been accepted to take effect October 14. The part which he felt it his duty to take in the earlier stages of the recent revolution in Mexico would make it difficult for him to represent the views of the present administration, in view of the situation which now exists."

The ambassador in the ordinary practice is entitled to 60 days leave exclusive of Sundays, which accounts for the fixing of the date of October 14 in the announcement. In the meantime no appointment can be made of a successor as a vacancy will not exist until that date. Consequently the American embassy in Mexico will remain in charge of Secretary O'Shaughnessy, corresponding in status with the Mexican embassy in the city of Washington, which is now conducted by Charge Algras.

The resignation preceded by a few hours an announcement of the policy towards Mexico, by President Wilson. No intimation of what the announcement would be was permitted to leak out, but there were assurances that armed intervention was out of the question and there were reasons for believing the announcement would deal with this government's attitude toward exports of arms to Mexico.

Washington, Aug. 4.—Armed intervention in Mexico neither is a probability nor a possibility, for a peaceable solution of the situation is becoming more practicable.

This is the view President Wilson took today of the situation. He let it be known, too, that before the end of the day he would make a brief announcement of the first step in the policy of the United States toward Mexico. While no inkling of what it would be came from the White House, it was expected that the president would formally announce his decision not to recognize the Huerta government.

Senator Bacon, leaving the executive offices after a half hour talk with the president, said he was not at liberty to discuss his visit.

Senator Bacon's view has been that arms should be denied both factions as long as peace proposals were under way. Should peace proposals utterly fail, however, and every method for reaching an understanding be exhausted, he has told friends he would not be averse to lifting the embargo on arms so that both sides might get them on an equality. That is said to be the president's opinion also.

The senator declared attempts were being made to represent the committee as being in opposition to the president because it had summoned leading Mexicans to obtain information. He declared the committee was in accord with the president and at the White House it was said the president approved the course as a means of throwing light on the situation.

Ambassador Wilson after a short conference with Secretary Bryan said he had not finished discussing the subject before them and would resume later today. He declined to discuss the nature of the conference but in respect to reports that his resignation was about to be accepted, replied that it would not be surprising, as he had submitted it to the administration here three times since March 4. He expected, he said, that the resignation would be accepted, but in such a way as not to constitute any reflection on his diplomatic record.

Washington, Aug. 4.—Ambassador Henry Lane Wilson returned to Washington today for a conference with Secretary Bryan.

The ambassador's return evidently had been arranged on short notice, his telegram from Secretary Bryan merely said he was wanted to confer on "important matters." Mr. Wilson himself disclaimed knowing for what he had been summoned.

San Francisco, Aug. 4.—General Felix Diaz, special envoy from Mexico to Japan, said today he intended to sail August 15 from Vancouver, B. C.

"I am going only to express to his imperial majesty, the emperor, Mexico's appreciation of Japan's action in sending in 1910 a representative to the celebration of the centennial of Mexican independence," said the general. "Mexico is wholly friendly with Japan and the Japanese are very welcome to come to Mexico. We need all the labor we can get."

"There is no truth in the report that Japan is negotiating for a tract of land at Magdalena Bay which might serve as a naval station."

BEGINNING FIGHT IN CARTER CASE

Judge Boyd Will Hear Arguments to Quash Indictments at 3 O'clock.

SETTLE AND HOLTON CROSS THEIR SWORDS

On Question as to Eligibility of Grand Jurors Who Returned the Indictments.

The preliminary fight in the John H. Carter case will begin this afternoon at 3 o'clock before Judge James E. Boyd in United States District court. Arguments will be heard on the motion filed in May to quash the two indictments against Carter, one returned by the Greensboro grand jury here at the May term this year.

This argument will have to do with the grounds of the motion. Thomas Settle announced for the defense this morning that the motion would be made on the grounds that members of the jury at Greensboro and in Asheville, who assisted in framing the bills, had not paid their taxes for several years previous to the time that they were serving as jurors. He made this statement while asking for a continuance until tomorrow to allow time for the filing of pleas in abatement.

District Attorney A. E. Holton crossed swords with him immediately on this question, stating that the law relative to jurors paying their taxes before being eligible to service has been repeatedly stated that this reason would not constitute grounds to quash. Judge Boyd also stated that he does not hold now with the defense on this point but would hear their arguments at 3 o'clock as to whether or not this law is operative in the present case. The argument will be in the nature of a demurrer proceeding.

The court, which is an adjourned session of the May term, convened this morning at 11 o'clock. Two retelling cases that were tried in May, with mistrials resulting, were called but continued owing to the fact that the jurors for this term are the same who served in May and therefore might be prejudiced against or for the defendants.

The Carter case was then called, and Mr. Holton announced that the government was ready for trial. Mr. Settle made a similar announcement for the defendant but stated that the pleas in abatement had not been completed, as the counsel had not had an opportunity to confer with all the witnesses for the defense and prepare the pleas. After his announcement as to the grounds upon which the motion to quash will be argued, the new arrangement was made, and it was thought that until 3 o'clock this afternoon would be sufficient time in which to get ready.

It will be recalled that Mr. Carter is indicted in two bills for misapplication of the funds of the American National bank, and with false entries on the books of that institution. The first bill, drawn at Greensboro, contained 54 counts. The new bill found here contained fewer counts but embodied practically all those of the previous indictment. Mr. Holton moved this morning that the two bills be consolidated, and Judge Boyd stated that they are automatically consolidated by law.

The defendant is represented by Thomas Settle of Asheville and Francis B. Carter and W. A. Blount of the firm of Blount, Blount & Carter of Jacksonville. Francis B. Carter is a brother of the defendant. Mr. Holton and his assistant, Mr. Hoey, will conduct the prosecution for the government.

It is probable that all preliminary motions will be disposed of this afternoon, and in case the indictments are not quashed, the taking of testimony will begin tomorrow. No idea is entertained as to how much time will be taken up in the hearing of the case.

GUARDS LAWLESS IN COPPER FIELDS

Union Leader Flays Conduct of Militia on Strike Duty.

By Associated Press.
Calumet, Mich., Aug. 4.—Practically the entire strike zone in the copper country echoed to rifle and revolver shots early today. There were more than the usual number of "shad shots" by sentries and an increased patrol force of armed deputies was blamed by the troops commanders and union officials alike for an almost constant popping of revolvers that lasted from shortly after midnight until daylight. Despite the promiscuous firing no one was injured.

"The work of the deputies is an outrage," said Claude O. Taylor, president of the Michigan federation of labor. "It is inconceivable that a great state should allow its national guard to be used as a curtain behind which armed thugs may commit acts that ought of right to land their perpetrators in prison."

Mr. Taylor said that the American Federation of Labor was behind the strike and that it would take on national proportions. He said he would go to Lansing and tell Governor Ferris of the alleged conditions.

With "Mother Jones" due here tomorrow and other unionists on route, there was every indication that the Western Federation of Miners was preparing for a determined struggle. No actual mining is going on.

MINE SURVIVOR DYING OF WOUNDS FROM BLAST

Only Worker Who Lived Though East Brookside Explosion Fatally Hurt.

By Associated Press.
Pottsville, Pa., Aug. 4.—Harry Schoffstall, the only survivor of the East Brookside colliery explosion, which resulted in the death of 19 persons, is in a dying condition at his home in Orwin today. No trace has been found of Daniel Farley and John Fessler, fire bosses, and it is believed that they were in the tunnel when the explosion occurred and were blown to pieces. The piece of rock behind or under which it was expected to find their bodies has been penetrated without any sign of them.

About 100 feet from the scene of the explosion a note in chalk was found written by Fessler which was to the effect that they had gone up an airway. It is thought that this was written before the explosion as it is customary for miners to give notice of their whereabouts by markings of this kind.

OPPOSITION TO SEGREGATION

Senator Clapp Is Against Separation of Races in the Postoffice Department.

INSISTS BURLESON GIVE EXPLANATION

Many Protests Against Working With Negroes Have Been Filed by White Employees.

By Associated Press.
Washington, Aug. 4.—Opposed to segregation of the races in the postoffice department, Senator Clapp of Minnesota was prepared today to insist that Postmaster-General Burleson explain the grounds on which a department order providing for such a separation of the white and negro employees was in contemplation.

The senator contends that the two races have worked together for half a century, and he does not believe any greater need exists for their separation now than at any time in the past. The proposed plan, Senator Clapp says, has been given to understand, would increase the expenses of the department by approximately \$150,000 a year.

While there have been very strenuous complaints from employees of post-offices throughout the country, officials admit that vigorous protests against working with negroes have been filed by employees in the railway division. On long runs, the complaints have represented while-railway mail clerks frequently are compelled to eat and sleep with negro clerks. They have made a concerted effort to have the condition remedied.

With the incoming of the democratic administration the postal employees organization lodged petitions, bearing several thousand signatures, asking Postmaster-General Burleson for relief. It is understood to be largely because of these that the reported order of segregation is to be issued.

CONLEY BARES GIRL'S MURDER

TOWNSEND GIVES MULHALL THE LIE

Denies in Detail the Conference Referred to in Lobbyist's Letters.

By Associated Press.
Washington, Aug. 4.—Senator Townsend of Michigan was the first witness today before the senate lobby committee. Testimony of Martin M. Mulhall had been finished, and that witness was waiting to be questioned by the house committee about his lobbying activities for the National Association of Manufacturers.

Sensor Townsend denied Mulhall's testimony that he had talked with him and characterized Mulhall as a "self-acknowledged corruptionist."

Emery and Mulhall, when Townsend was a member of the house, came together to his office and Mulhall made an argument about labor legislation.

"When he paused I asked him if he was through and he said, 'yes,' then I said, 'well, this is my busy day; you'll have to excuse me.' Therefore it is an unqualified falsehood when he says he talked with me confidentially."

The senator went through the record and picking out letters in which his name appeared, denied in detail Mulhall's testimony that he had conferred with him.

Mulhall took the stand to identify a \$500 check he said he drew April 7, 1908, to be turned over to H. A. Jones of Racine, Wis., for a retainer for former Congressman James E. Watson, when the manufacturers wanted Watson to work for a tariff commission bill.

Chairman Overman announced that former Senator Foraker would be heard tomorrow.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT TRYON TODAY

Detachment from Asheville Started to Help, but Turned Back at Arden.

At 6:45 o'clock this morning the local fire department received a message from Tryon saying that the entire business section was threatened by fire and asking for help. Chief Wood immediately turned in the alarm and left with 10 men and 1000 feet of hose; but at Arden received a message stating the fire was under control, so the local firemen returned to Asheville.

Although no telephone connection can now be established with Tryon it has been learned that Misseline's drug store was burned and the post-office building badly damaged.

As soon as the call for help was received here Fire Chief Wood had a special car attached to train No. 14 and the men left at 7:10. It is reported that a detachment of firemen from Spartanburg went to Tryon but it is not known whether or not they assisted in putting out the fire.

POSEY M'CALL KILLED WHILE COUPLING CARS

Head of Brakeman Was Crushed Under Wheels at Hendersonville Today.

At six o'clock this morning, while coupling an Atlanta sleeper to the Toxaway train, in the yards at Hendersonville, Posey McCall, a brakeman, was crushed by the car and instantly killed.

It is presumed that in making the coupling he slipped and fell between the cars and they passed over his head, crushing out his brains. McCall was about 24 years of age and was a resident of Brevard, where the body was taken for interment. Surviving are the mother, two sisters and a brother.

BALKAN STATES AGREE TO ARMISTICE EXTENSION

Of Three Days to Give Peace Plenipotentiaries More Time to Act.

By Associated Press.
Bucharest, Rumania, Aug. 4.—A three days' extension of the armistice between the Balkan states was agreed to today by the peace delegates on Rumania and Serbia, Greece, Montenegro and Bulgaria. This action was taken to enable plenipotentiaries to endeavor to reconcile the differences and claims of the various states.

NEGRO EMPLOYE SAYS FACTORY SUPERINTENDENT KILLED MARY PHAGAN IN OFFICE AT NOON

PROMISED \$200 FOR AID AFTER CRIME

Negro Says He Helped Move Body to Metal Room and Frank Withheld Pay.

By Associated Press.
Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 4.—James Conley today testified that he helped Leo M. Frank, charged with the murder of 14 years old Mary Phagan, dispose of the girl's body after she had been killed by Frank.

After three minor witnesses had been examined Conley was led to the witness stand by Chief of Police Beavers and Chief of Detectives Landford. The negro held the interest of the spectators, more than 100 of whom were women, from the moment he entered the court room.

In his testimony he declared that on several occasions he stood on guard for Frank, when the latter was closeted in his office with women. Frank, according to the negro's testimony, was accustomed to stamp on the floor when he desired Conley to keep watch. The negro testified Mary Phagan went to the office of Frank about noon on the day of her disappearance. Shortly thereafter, he testified, Frank stamped on the floor and the negro took his accustomed place.

Only a short time had elapsed, according to the negro, when he heard a muffled scream. A few moments later he was summoned by Frank, the latter, according to the negro's testimony, apparently being greatly excited. Conley testified that the factory superintendent's face was crimson; his body and legs were trembling and that he clutched a cord with both hands.

"I wanted her and she resisted me," Frank exclaimed, according to Conley, "I hit her too hard."

The negro described to the court two alleged incidents which led him to the conclusion that Frank was a degenerate.

Conley then told of going at Frank's direction to the metal room, where he found the body of Mary Phagan.

Removing Girl's Body.

The negro testified that the girl's body was lying on the metal room, face up. He said he knew at once that she was dead because she "didn't move and she didn't breathe." The witness stated that he put the body of the girl in a gunny sack and tied the sack "like a washerwoman ties clothes."

Putting the bundle on his shoulder the negro, according to his testimony, started toward the elevator. When about half way across the room, the body slipped from his shoulder and fell to the floor. He called to Frank for assistance and together, he testified, they carried the girl's body to the elevator. Apparently the current was cut off and the elevator would not run. Frank, according to Conley, went to his office, secured the key to the switchbox, and returning unlocked the box and turned on the current. Both descended with the body to the basement, where the body was left on a pile of rubbish near the furnace, the negro said.

Gave Conley \$200.

Conley then told of returning to Frank's office, where, he claimed, the factory superintendent offered \$200, and where, the negro claimed, he wrote the notes at Frank's dictation, which were found near the body of the girl. Conley testified that Frank continued to become more nervous while in the office. Walking back and forth and wringing his hands, Conley stated that Frank exclaimed:

"Why should I hang; I have wealthy relatives in Brooklyn?"

"But what's going to happen to me?" Conley said he asked Frank.

"I'll take care of you, all right," Conley said Frank replied, and handed him a roll of bills containing \$200.

According to the negro's testimony, Frank told him to go down in the basement, gather up some chips, put them in the furnace, and put the girl's body on top of them. The negro stated that he told the factory superintendent that he was afraid to go into the basement alone, but would go if Frank would accompany him.

"You see I was willing to do this, too, gentlemen," Conley testified, as he turned toward the jury.

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WOMAN AND DAUGHTER MURDERED IN HOME

By Associated Press.
Kirkville, Mo., Aug. 4.—Mrs. Ivy Chevelier, 40 years old, and her daughter, Ella, 15 years old, were found murdered in their home here today. Apparently they had been dead for hours. The two had been beaten over the head and were lying on the floor in their night apparel.