

Chairman Peters Issues Statement as to Railroads

New York, Dec. 24.—Mr. Ralph Peters, chairman of the Committee on Railway Mail Pay, representing 264 leading railroads, operating nearly 90 per cent of the total railroad mileage of the United States, today issued the following statement: "The House of Representatives has passed a special rule declaring in order the railway mail pay rider in the Post Office appropriation bill. The ostensible purpose of that rider is to establish a plan of payment for the railway mail service which shall be more scientific than the system now in effect. Its true purpose, however, as revealed in debate before the House of Representatives by Chairman Moon, of the Post Office Committee is to reduce railway mail pay by many millions per year, and, in particular, to force the railroads to carry all the parcel post, in Chairman Moon's own words, 'without any additional compensation.' Chairman Moon openly advocated this proposal despite the injustice manifest on its face, and in direct disregard of the finding submitted to Congress last summer, after nearly two years of careful investigation and study, by the Joint Congressional Committee on Railway Mail Pay, under the chairmanship of former Senator Bozrae. The finding of the Bozrae Committee was that the railroads were, as a matter of right and justice, entitled to an advance of at least \$3,000,000 per year for carrying the mails, with relief from certain incidental services now rendered without payment and representing several millions more annually. Chairman Moon's committee, it is true, recommended to the House an increase of more than \$2,000,000 in next year's appropriation for railway mail pay, and embodied this recommendation in the Post Office Appropriation bill. But that the apparent promise of the bill and its real object are vastly different things, was made clear when Chairman Moon, on December 19, said before the House: 'It does not show a saving upon its face, and cannot do it, but only shows an administrative proposition of saving. The saving will occur, as the Department thinks, in the handling of the mails. In other words, you have changed from the quadrennial weighing of the mails on a weight basis, on which the pay is to be computed, to the piece provision, and you will have enough space under the contract to carry all your parcel post probably without any additional compensation and save many millions annually. That is their theory.' Again Chairman Moon said, more specifically: 'Does not the gentleman know that the main feature of this bill, the only great feature in it, is the railroad proposition, and does he not know that when he voted against the consideration of that railroad proposition that would save this country eight millions of dollars every year, if carried?' 'So, the chairman of the House of Representatives Committee, which recommended an increase of \$2,000,000 in the appropriation to pay the railroads for carrying the mails stated on the floor of the House that the bill would save the government \$5,000,000 annually. Chairman Moon quoted the President of the United States as supporting the rule to consider the mail pay rider of the Post Office appropriation bill: 'I said and I say it now, and I do not propose to withdraw one single word of it from anybody, that, in my opinion, when the President of the United States and the Postmaster General, when the Democratic Committee on Rules, when the Democratic Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, asks for a rule to consider legislation, that would save to this country millions of dollars, the Democrat who turns his back upon that demand, violates the best interests of the Democratic party. What President Wilson did say on the question of governmental economy, in his message to Congress was this:

THE MAYOR DISPOSES OF OFFENDERS

There were several cases tried before Mayor F. C. Kugler at the City Hall Christmas eve. The following were disposed of: Daniel Knight. Drunk and disorderly. Daniel Knight. Assault. In both cases the defendant was bound over to the recorder for final disposition. Samuel Walker. Drunk. Fined \$3 and cost. Noah Lawson. Assault and drunk and disorderly. Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the cost and his good behavior. J. C. Moore. Drunk. \$2.00 and cost.

DES MOINES AND FORT DODGE MERGER.

New York, Dec. 26.—The consolidation of the Des Moines and Fort Dodge railway with the Minneapolis and St. Louis will come up again today at an adjourned meeting of the stockholders. There have been two previous meetings at which the stockholders could not agree, the minority holding out for a larger figure than has been offered. They are thought to be more nearly to an agreement today than at any time heretofore and the consummation of the plan is looked for soon.

NO. OF BALES GINNED IN THE COUNTY

The cotton ginners report for Beaufort county up to and including December 13, is as follows: The number of bales ginned in this county up to December 13 were 3,293. For the same period up to December 13th, 1913, the number of bales ginned were 3,447. This shows a difference of 1,154 in favor of the season of 1914.

Munster Crop Area. Munster, Ireland, has a crop area of 1,287,387 acres, and a population of 1,028,495 persons.

Control of Insects is Harmful

The season of 1914, according to the officials of the forest service carried greater danger from fire to the national forests than any year since the establishment of the national forests. To meet this emergency and to prevent great loss of public property, the department of agriculture was obliged to exceed the amount appropriated for fire protection and incur a deficiency of \$349,243. The condition of drought and other factors of forest fire hazard were said to be worse than in 1910, when the disastrous Idaho fires occurred. Weather bureau reports show that in most of the Rocky Mountain and Pacific coast region last winter's snows were much below the normal, and as a result there was an early spring and an early drying out of the forests. In western Montana and northern Idaho there were forest fires in considerable numbers by the end of May and they continued until October. In California, where there is normally a very long season of drought, the fire season started in some portions five weeks earlier than usual, and in the southern part of the state the fire danger was still great at the end of November. A long dry season, sustained periods of high temperature, recurring hard and steady winds, and, in certain places unusually hot, dry nights; rendered the forests exceedingly inflammable and the problem of fire prevention unusually difficult. The total number of fires during the season of 1914 which threatened the national forests and which had to be handled by the protective organization of forest service were 6,112 or about 1,000 more than occurred in 1910. This number represents the fires reported up to December 1. At that time reports indicated that there was still a dangerous condition in southern California and in certain portions of the national forests of the east. The service says that the total for the year will be increased by fires in these regions during December. The most serious conditions are reported from western Montana and northern Idaho and on the Pacific slope. The weather conditions in central and southern Rocky mountain regions were more nearly normal. As a consequence only 15 per cent of the total number of all national forests fires occurred in these regions and they were handled with cut difficulty and with very small loss of property. Of the entire 6,112 fires which threatened the national forests, 81 per cent were extinguished by the protective organization before they had covered 10 acres. The percentage of fires that burned over more than 10 acres was smaller than in any previous year. While detailed reports have not yet been received appraising the exact loss to the government through the forest fires, a preliminary estimate shows that the loss of merchantable timber will probably not exceed \$400,000. In 1910 the corresponding estimate of loss was nearly \$15,000,000, but later estimates materially reduced the amount. Through the work of the protective force the fires this year were largely confined to old burns and to less heavily timbered areas. The loss to the government through the destruction of young trees which had sprung up in these openings is larger than the actual loss to green timber. In Montana and Idaho alone it is said that the value of specific bodies of timber which were threatened by the approximately 2,000 fires which started and were put out, aggregated the enormous sum of over \$59,000,000. It was in this section that the largest amount of money had to be spent to prevent a recurrence of the great disaster of 1910. In Oregon and Washington the 1,800 fires which were handled by the department threatened upwards of \$24,000,000 worth of timber. And these figures, according to the department experts, do not include the value of non-merchantable timber and young on about 5,000,000 acres of land, and several million dollars worth of ranch and other private property which lay in the path of the threatening conflagrations. Figures are not yet gathered of the precise amount of damage threatened by fires in California and other national forest states, though they are expected to add large amounts to the total value of the property threatened and saved.

PICTURES AT NEW THEATRE ON TONIGHT

The New Theater announces through this paper that they will positively exhibit the least installment of "Lucille Love" tonight. Through the fault of the theater, using this picture before they reached us not putting it in the express office, the New Theater was not able to exhibit them last night. But the management has got in touch with the films today and the "Lucille Love" picture will certainly appear tonight. Today matinee and night will close the engagement of the "Southern Beauties." There will be an entire change of program tonight. This has certainly been the best troupe that has ever been here. For next week the New Theater announces that they have for the amusement of their patrons "The Broadway Follies Musical Comedy Company." This troupe carries their own scenery and musical director and is reported to be an excellent musical comedy company. This troupe will appear every night next week, with the exception of next Thursday night, when the home talent will repeat the musical comedy that was given here ten days ago, "The Girl Who Dared."

COMPANIES WILL HAVE INSPECTION

Capt. R. C. Langston of the United States Army and Col. Thomas Stringfield, of the North Carolina National Guard, will begin on January 11th the annual inspection of the companies of the guard. Their work will continue up to and including April 1st. The date for the annual inspection of the Sixth Division of the Naval Militia here has not as yet been given out.

GUEST OF MRS. LATHAM. Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Boyd of Pinetown, spent Xmas with Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Latham on Brown street. GUEST OF MRS. E. L. ROPER. Mrs. Jennie Boyd of Pinetown, is the guest of Mrs. E. L. Roper on East Main street.

ATTRACTIVE SERVICES IN THE CHURCHES

First Methodist Church. West Second street. Rev. E. M. Snipes, pastor. Regular services tomorrow morning and evening at the usual hours, with preaching by the Presiding Elder, Mr. Reed. This will be the first time that this congregation will have had the pleasure of hearing the new presiding elder, Sunday School three o'clock. E. R. Nixon, superintendent. The Baraca Class, W. M. Keas, teacher, will meet at the same hour. All cordially invited to be present. Seats free. St. Peter's Church. Bonner street. Rev. Nathaniel Harding, rector. Morning and evening prayer with sermon by the rector at the usual hours. Sunday School, E. K. Willis, Jr., superintendent, will meet at 8 o'clock. Bible class with H. S. Ward, teacher, meets at the same hour. The music at this church tomorrow will be one of the features. All strangers in the city have a cordial invitation to attend. Polite and attentive ushers. First Presbyterian Church. Gladden street. Rev. H. B. Seagriff, pastor. Regular services tomorrow morning and evening at the usual hours, with preaching by the pastor. Sunday School, C. M. Brown, Jr., superintendent, will meet at three o'clock. The music on tomorrow will be one of the features. All invited. First Baptist Church. Market street. Rev. R. L. Gay, pastor. The morning subject will be "Christ's Mission to Men." The evening subject will be "We spend our years as a tale that is told." Sunday School, S. P. Willis, superintendent, will meet at 9.30 o'clock. The music by the orchestra will be among the features of the day. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MANUAL TRAINING HIGH SCHOOL. New York, Dec. 26.—The seventh annual meet of the Manual Training High School in connection with the Fourteenth Regiment A. A. at the Fourteenth Regiment Armory tonight will bring out two thousand and coming athletes. Great interest centers in the event and some records will be reached for if not pulled down.

CONSECRATION OF BISHOP DARST TAKES PLACE AT WILMINGTON, JAN. 6TH

Rev. Thomas Campbell Darst, D. D., rector of Saint James Episcopal Church, Richmond, Va., who in October last was elected bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina to succeed the late lamented Rt. Rev. Robert Strange, D. D., by the Council which convened in the Episcopal Church, this city, will be consecrated on Wednesday, January 6th. The services will take place in Saint James Episcopal Church of Wilmington, N. C., which is the See city of the diocese. Rev. C. A. Ashby of Elizabeth City, who is the secretary of the Standing Committee of the diocese has received from the presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church in America, Rt. Rev. D. S. Tuttle of Missouri, notice to this effect. The consecrators will be the presiding bishop, Bishop Cheshire of North Carolina; Bishop Gibson of Virginia. Presentors, Bishop Tucker of Southern Virginia and Bishop Quarry of South Carolina. The preacher will be Bishop Gravatte, Bishop Coadjutor of West Virginia. Attending Presbytery, Rev. J. M. Roberson and Rev. C. A. Ashby of Elizabeth City. Master of Ceremonies, Rev. W. H. Milton, D. D., of Wilmington. All the clergy of the Diocese of East Carolina are preparing to attend the consecration and many of the laity will be present as well as friends and those interested in other dioceses. Saint James Church, Wilmington, is making elaborate preparations for this interesting and solemn church service. A large number will attend.

CITY COURT FOR TO DAY WAS GOOD

The city court had several cases this morning for trial as a result of Christmas. Those disposed of were as follows: Oliver Credle. Drunk. Fined \$5 and cost. Bob Tripp. Drunk. Attached with the cost. Benjamin Dennis, drunk. Fined \$2 and cost. Willie Groves. Drunk. Fined \$2 and cost. Dave Bryant. Drunk and disorderly. Fined \$5 and cost. Charles Williams. A. D. W. Bound over to the Recorder.

TOOK BOOZE TO JAIL IN WOODEN LEG

Union Hill.—The mystery of how Ben Tyler, a one-legged man, prolonged a spree while locked in a cell in the caboose, was solved in the early hours yesterday. Arrested Thursday Constable Harris found Tyler more hilarious on each succeeding day. A sound of gurgling aroused the jailer and he found Ben tilting his wooden leg at an acute angle. From it he was pouring the last drops of the fiery liquid which had filled its hollow interior.

TEXAS ZIONISTS ASSOCIATION. Fort Worth, Tex., Dec. 26.—The Texas Zionists Association will meet here tomorrow while some of the most prominent Jewish people in the country will be present. SOCIETY BUDDS OUT IN WINTER. New York, Dec. 26.—The first of a series of society dances for the "bringing out of the younger set" will be held at Sherry's tonight. These are for girls who have been in training in the finishing schools and are most popular among the older as well as with the debutantes. A list of the names would read like a society roster.

SCHOOL OF MASONS IS ATTRACTIVE

The Masonic school of instruction which is being held at Orr Lodge No. 104 A. F. and A. M., is proving to be quite an attraction and this is well for no organization of this well known fraternity in North Carolina is more prosperous. These instructions are conducted each Sunday afternoon and are proving more attractive each week. On next Sunday the meeting will be held at two o'clock. Those wishing Masonic information would do well to attend. This is quite an innovation and those who have received instruction at these meetings are loud in their praise.

BERMUDA SERVICE UNDER THE AMERICAN FLAG

New York, Dec. 26.—The Oceana of the Bermuda-American Steamship Company, started on her initial trip today to the island of Lillies. She had Lloyd's highest endorsement on her American registry. She was the first vessel admitted to American registry, and is the largest vessel sailing from New York to Bermuda. She was heavily booked for this, her maiden voyage.

A THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK.

Get up right in the morning. Go to bed right at night. Start with joy in your heart, hope in the future, kindness in your purpose. If it is a dark day, never mind; you will lighten it up. If it is a bright day, you will add to the brightness. Give a word of cheer, a kindly greeting and a warm handshake to your friends. If you have enemies, look up, pass them by, forget and try to forgive. If all of us would only think how much of human happiness is made by ourselves, there would be less of human misery. If all of us would bear in mind that happiness is from within and not from without, there would be a well-spring of joy in every heart and the sun would shine forever. Try it!—Lestlie's Weekly.

VISITED MOTHER.

Mr. Thomas Roberts, electrician at the Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va., who has been spending a few days with his mother, Mrs. Bettie Roberts, left this morning via the Atlantic Coast Line for his home.

New Theater TONIGHT "SOUTHERN BEAUTIES" And the 10th installment of "LUCILLE LOVE" All of Next Week "THE BROADWAY FOLLIES" Musical Comedy Co. Special Scenery. Special Music. Pretty Girls. Pretty Wardrobe. Prices 10 and 20 Cents.

THE LAST 4 DAYS There are only four days in which to do your Holiday Shopping. Call in and see our line of HUYLERS CANDIES Cigars, Pipes and Tobacco. Fancy Box Stationery, Manicure Sets, Parisian Ivory Sets, Perfumery and Toilet Waters of all kinds. Our prices are in keeping with the times. Davenport's Pharmacy.

OWN YOUR HOME! The Home Building and Loan Association will open a new series Saturday January 2nd It is the safest and easiest way to pay for a home in small weekly installments—or to accumulate a fund, for a rainy day, or for Christmas. See us About It W. E. Swindell, Pres. Jno. B. Sparrow, Secty. Office in Saving & Trust Co., Building

Educating. The stored mind is strong, mentally grows, like the body, by being fed. Knowledge is a tested route to wisdom, but meditation is a surer. What digestion is to food, meditation is to knowledge. The end of all education is to teach a person to think clearly, strongly and practically. Ponderously Built. My aunt, a buxom lady of 200 pounds, was dusting the room in a suffragist cap, when I remarked: "You ought to go to war in that cap." Buddha, aged five, who had been sitting quietly by, spoke up: "Cheo, Aunt Babe, you would make a swell fort!"—Chicago Tribune.