

LARGE POWERS FOR THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

Bills Introduced in Order to Allow the Commission to Fix Rates of Transportation when They are Proved Unjust.

The Recent Rule Giving the Democratic Caucus in the Senate Binding Power is a Fine Augury for Party Discipline and Success

(A. W. Hughes.) Washington, D. C., Dec. 22.—The Democratic newspapers in every section of the country are congratulating the party and themselves on the statement made by Senator Bailey that the Republican party can no longer count on the support of straggling Democratic votes.

For many years there has been no such discipline among the Democrats in Congress. On almost every question that came up, whether relating to the tariff or the trusts or imperialistic tendencies or great industrial undertakings, the vote has exhibited a sort of gas-you-please. Democratic Senators and Representatives have declared a party independence because there was no fixed party dictum to obey and no fear in case of disobedience.

A bill introduced December 8th in the House by Mr. Cooper of Wisconsin, which was a few days later introduced in the Senate by Mr. Quarles of Wisconsin, is really quite a deal of unfavorable comment on existing rates of interstate commerce.

The Merchants' Association of New York, the Produce Exchange of the same city, the Philadelphia Board of Trade and various other large bodies have sent petitions to Congress asking for the passage of the bill.

The National Retail Grocers' Association, the National Grange of Patrons of Husbandry, and the Northwestern Manufacturers' Association will all have representatives here after the holidays to work for the passage of the bill.

The measure as introduced both in the Senate and House provides that any order made by the Interstate Commerce Commission, after hearing and determination had on any petition now pending or hereafter presented declaring any existing rate or rates unreasonable, or any regulation or practice affecting such rates, or any regulation or practice affecting such rates, or any regulation or practice affecting such rates, or any regulation or practice affecting such rates.

Commission is a joint rate, and the amount thereof among the appropriate twenty days after notice of such order. The Commission may issue a supplemental order declaring the proposed rate to be received by the Commission prescribes the just relation of rates to or from common points on the lines of the several carriers and such carriers fail to notify the Commission within twenty days after notice of such order that they have agreed to be made to effect compliance therewith, the Commission may issue a supplemental order prescribing the rates to be charged to or from such common points by either or all of the parties to the proceeding, which order must be observed by the carriers concerned.

School Closes Tomorrow at Noon. The city schools of Charlotte, white and colored, will close tomorrow at the noon hour for the Christmas holidays, and for eleven days all thought of books and school work will be dismissed from the minds of the nearly three thousand pupils in the city. The schools will resume work on Monday, January 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Ward Here. Mr. John M. Ward and wife came in last night from New York and left this morning for Eastfield, where they will be the guests of Mr. Robert Wallace for several days. Mr. Ward is on his regular winter hunt and will spend most of his time in the fields.

Mr. L. W. Williamson Runs Across the Animal while Out 'Possum Hunting--It Has been Seen Near Shopton Once or Twice Since

A REAL, LIVE BEAR SEEN NEAR SHOPTON

Mr. L. W. Williamson, who lives near Shopton, was in the city today and informed The News that while out 'possum hunting last week, he ran across a real live bear.

The animal, so Mr. Williamson states, was run some distance by his dogs and finally tired of running, the bear commenced to engage in a scrap with the dogs.

From the continual barking of the dogs, Mr. Williamson supposed they had treed a 'possum, and going to the place, he was very much surprised to see a large bear sitting on its haunches, slapping the dogs with its fore-feet as they came in reaching distance.

Mr. Williamson says he took several looks at the animal and then "burnt the wind" in the direction of home.

The same bear has been seen since in the Shopton neighborhood. It is supposed that the animal belonged to a party of Japs who passed through the Sharon section some time ago.

Mr. Williamson states that the animal is about the size of a calf and is colored like a Jersey calf.

IN REGARD TO FIREWORKS.

Law Prohibits Use or Sale in City or Within Mile of Limits.

The small boy will be compelled to go to the woods with his roman candles, firecrackers and other explosives this Christmas if he would avoid the arm of the law.

Chief Irwin calls attention to the city ordinance which says that no roman candles, firecrackers or other explosives shall be set off inside the city limits or within one mile of the city. The ordinance also forbids the sale of fire works either inside the city or within a mile of the incorporate limits by any dealer or storekeeper without first paying a license of \$500.

Notwithstanding the above it may be stated that the every resourceful small boy is not letting all the fun go by but has resorted to various and sundry devices to make a noise and celebrate Christmas, as he considers, in the only proper manner and the bang of torpedoes was heard on every side today. The small boy is generally careful, however, to see that no vigilant policeman's eye is upon him when he indulges his passion for explosives.

TIDINGS OF WAR FROM THE FAR EAST

Admiral Alexieff is Given Extraordinary Powers to Settle All Questions--Great Britain Will Fight for Japan's Rights.

(By Associated Press.) London, Dec. 23.—A portentous element in the far East situation, as it is looked upon here, is the rising feeling in Great Britain that Russia must yield or fight her. From the highest diplomatic sources it is learned that the German Government, while still refusing to believe that war is certain, is convinced now that if war between Russia and Japan comes, Great Britain will take part in it because the British Government looks upon war as possibly the only means of saving and re-establishing her position in the East.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 23.—A telegram from Vladivostok under today's date says, "Admiral Alexieff Viceroy of the Far East, is authorized to settle on the spot all questions concerning neighboring states and to take all measures which appear expedient."

MALICIOUS REPORT.

This is What Judge Boyd Says of Washington Telegram. A private message from Judge James E. Boyd to a friend in Charlotte says:

The telegram published in the Evening Chronicle of yesterday afternoon was inspired by an unworthy motive and was sent out to injure me. I fear no charges based on truth as to my official conduct.

The general impression among Judge Boyd's friends in Charlotte is fully expressed in the statement made by Chairman Rollins at Statesville this morning—that there is nothing in the Washington story.

WAR ON THE DEAD.

The Chicago Strikers Continue to Picket the Funeral Processions. (By Associated Press.) Chicago, Dec. 23.—While the liverymen and undertakers were making preparations today to resume service to patrons, "pickets or no pickets," indignities continued to fall to the lot of funeral parties. The driver of an ambulance was taking a body to the train when he made the target of abusive epithets and in an other instance mourners were delayed by the pickets until the body, which they were accompanying, had been placed aboard the train and the train had left the station.

INVITATION SENT ANDREW CARNEGIE

The Philanthropist has Been Invited to Stop Over in Charlotte on His Way South--He will Come South Within the next ten days

An attractive invitation on parchment will be forwarded to Mr. Andrew Carnegie, the millionaire steel magnate, this evening, asking him to stop in Charlotte on his way South and take a look at the handsome building which is a monument to his generosity.

The invitation was written by Mr. Chas. H. Duls and was copied on parchment by Prof. Benheim. It is signed by Mayor F. M. Brown and Capt. Thomas S. Franklin, chairman of the library committee.

In the course of a week or ten days Mr. Carnegie will start South to visit his sister, who has a winter home on an island off the Georgia coast. It has been suggested that the millionaire should be invited to stop over in Charlotte and take a look at the handsome library building, and furthermore, that if he decides to accept the invitation, that he be the guest of the city during his stay.

RECEIVER APPOINTED.

For the Furniture Factory at China Grove. The Salisbury Sun of yesterday has the following: On motion of Edwin C. Gregory, Esq., at Statesville before Judge Long this morning, Mr. J. C. Dingle, of the county, was appointed receiver of the China Grove Furniture and Material Company. The receiver was appointed in pursuance of a unanimous resolution adopted by the board of directors of the company held at China Grove yesterday.

This company has been more or less embarrassed since it began operation about four years ago on account of a lack of running capital. The paid up stock is \$31,000, while \$40,000 was invested in machinery and buildings. Furniture experts say this is one of the most complete plants of the kind in the South and but for the unfortunate lack of operating capital would have yielded a handsome dividend from the start.

PIUS RECEIVES CARDINALS.

Interesting Function in Rome Today--American Representatives. (By Associated Press.) Rome, Dec. 23.—The Pope received all the Cardinals and high prelates today and they exchange the season's greetings. The function is unusually interesting as it was the first of the kind under his reign. The pontiff, in spotless white robes was seated on a throne, while the cardinals ranged themselves in front of him according to precedence. The Dean of the sacred college, Cardinal Oreglia, read a short and happily worded speech to which the Pope replied with his usual affability and modesty. The assemblage then advanced and kissed the Pontiff's hand and broke up into small groups. Pope Pius speaking personally to each of them. The United States was represented at the reception by Monsignor Seton Tiluat, Arch-bishop of Heliopolis, of New York, and Monsignor Kennedy, rector of the American College.

CRUISERS FOR THE ISTHMUS.

The New York Will Proceed at Once to Panama With Men and Supplies. (By Associated Press.) San Francisco, Dec. 23.—The U. S. Cruiser New York, arrived here yesterday from Brederford, Washington. It was understood that she will at once proceed to Panama, the commandant of the Mare Island yard has been ordered to draft 250 men from the receiving ship Independence, and send them here to join the New York tomorrow. Supplies for the torpedo boat destroyers Preble and Paul Jones have received supplies of ammunition at Mare Island and are expected here tomorrow in readiness to steam South with the New York.

New Orleans, Dec. 23.—The U. S. cruiser Topeka, weighed anchor and sailed for Colon, via Key West.

Philadelphia, Dec. 23.—The United States Cruiser Dixie, which is to take the new Caribbean sea battalion of marines to Colon, passed in the Delaware Breaker water late yesterday. It is expected that the cruiser will sail for Colon before the first of the New Year.

A "Laughing" Parlor.

"Imperial Laughing Parlor" is a new form of amusement opened at No. 8 North Tryon street this afternoon. It is said to have made a big hit at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo.

BRUTAL ASSAULT BY NEGRO FIEND

Mrs. Duncan Cole, of Greenwood Township, Moore County, Assaulted by a Negro Man who Asked for Something to Eat--Mob After Him.

(Special to The News.) Jonesboro, N. C., Dec. 22.—A strange negro came to the house of Mrs. Duncan Cole, of Greenwood township, yesterday about ten o'clock and asked for something to eat. Finding no one at home except Mrs. Cole, he assaulted her with criminal intent. The negro, a very heavy, stout man, struck Mrs. Cole a heavy blow on the head with a stick, rendering her unconscious for a while. A Mr. McDonald, who happened to be at the house at the time, heard the commotion, and on arriving at the house, saw the negro fleeing. Mr. McDonald pursued him for some distance, but failed to capture him. At this writing about one hundred and fifty people are scouring the woods in all directions for the negro.

A GREAT STRIKE IN ST. LOUIS

The Teamsters Union Threatens Sympathetic Strike if Industrial Association Interferes with Cabmen's Strike.

St. Louis, Dec. 23.—A strike of 9,000 carriage drivers and teamsters in St. Louis is threatened. It is stated by the Citizens' Industrial Association of St. Louis, in its announced purpose to enforce law and order, interfere with the proposed strike of cabmen and carriage drivers, which has been set for January 1, the officers of a dozen of the local unions of International Brotherhood of Teamsters threaten that 9,000 men will refuse to work and that not a pound of freight or ton of coal will be moved by union labor until the strike is settled.

FROM ARTIC CLIME.

Former Charlotte Boy Tells of His Residence in Newfoundland. Mr. J. Glenn Smith, formerly of this city, is at home to spend the holidays with his sister, Mrs. J. A. Cline, at South Tryon street.

Mr. Smith is at present living in the city of St. Johns, Newfoundland, and is in charge of that territory for Collier's Weekly. Mr. Smith has a large number of photographs which he has received from Collier's, illustrating the life on the island, commerce, natural scenery, whaling, fishing, etc.

"The island of Newfoundland," says Mr. Smith, is about the size of North Carolina. The people make their living entirely by salmon fishing and whaling. The climate is so rigorous that the inhabitants all live in the numerous caves and sheltered places on the coast in order to secure protection from the arctic blasts and snow storms. The interior of the island is a barren, bleak, uninhabited country where there is little or no vegetation.

Mr. Smith has gone on several whaling expeditions since locating at St. Johns. He left St. Johns three weeks ago on the last vessel coming South this winter. By this time there are so many icebergs and so much ice in the harbors and along the coast that no shipping can ever be attempted until after the spring thaw sets in.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF BANK RELEASED

Wrecker of the City Savings Bank of Detroit Makes Great Promises for the Future as to Reparation for Wrongs done.

(By Associated Press.) Detroit, Dec. 23.—Accompanied by an attorney and several newspaper men, Frank C. Andrews, the former vice-president who wrecked the City Savings Bank of this city, was released from Jackson prison on parole at midnight last night after serving a year and four months of his fifteen years' sentence. He arrived in Detroit today.

He went immediately to his home. In a brief statement of his intentions now that he is released from prison, Andrews said: "I am not going to make a formal statement or say much. I will let my conduct and actions talk. I am going back to work. This is the beginning, not the end.

"My first care will be to clear up tiresome controversies and end legal tangles and bring a stop to law-suits, the continued publicity of which is placing the banking institutions of the city of Detroit in a bad light all over the country and injuring the commercial interests of the town. I'll work every penny I owe until I have paid every penny I owe."

POPE'S CHRISTMAS GREETING.

Cardinal Gibbons Gives the Pope's Message to the Monarchs of the Catholic Countries, Austria, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, Saxony and Bavaria. (By Associated Press.) Baltimore, Dec. 23.—Cardinal Gibbons gave to the Associated Press the following translation of his Christmas greetings recently sent to each of the members of the college of cardinals throughout the world and to the Catholic crowned heads. The latter are the Emperor of Austria, the King of Spain, the King of Belgium, the King of Saxony and the Prince Regent of Bavaria.

The text of the letter addressed to the crowned heads is as follows: "Upon the approach of the nativity of our Divine Savior it is my duty to wish you most Catholic majesty all prosperity and peace at the same time to offer most fervent prayers for your health that He may shower down upon you every grace and all Heavenly help for the true welfare of your kingdom. May it please your Majesty to accept this wish which I humbly offer together with the sentiments of homage in which I have the honor to declare myself, with most profound respect, your most Catholic Majesty's humble, devoted and dutiful servant."

To his fellow cardinals, his Eminence wrote: "Upon the recurrence of the feast of the nativity and the return of the year I beg your eminence to be pleased to receive my best wishes for your happiness and for every blessing from the Saviour which I wish for you with all my heart."

CHAIRMAN ROLLINS DENIES THE STORY

Says He Has Heard Nothing of the Impeachment of Judge James E. Boyd and Feels Sure the Report is Sensational and Lacks Truthfulness.

(Special to The News.) Statesville, Dec. 23.—Chairman Rollins of the Republican Executive Committee, accompanied by his wife and two children, passed through Statesville this morning en route to Washington, where they will be the guests of Judge Pritchard and wife during the holidays.

Mr. Rollins was asked concerning the sensational telegram sent out from Washington in regard to the impeachment of Judge James E. Boyd of the Federal Court.

In reply to a question as to the truthfulness of the telegram Mr. Rollins is quoted as saying that there was "absolutely nothing in the report. Col. H. C. Cowles, Clerk of the Federal court, saw Mr. Rollins and it is learned from him that Mr. Rollins characterized the Washington telegram as sensational and absolutely untrue.

If there is any action to be taken condemning Judge Boyd's official conduct Mr. Rollins has not been apprised of it and he feels sure the report is not worthy of credence.

Burruss Shoemaker, who was convicted of slandering an innocent woman at the fall term of Iredell court, 1892 and sentenced to the roads for 18 months, and who afterwards escaped after serving nine months of his term, has given himself up to the sheriff of Iredell county. Shoemaker has been spending his time in Watauga county.

It now develops that the man is innocent of the charge and a petition has been forwarded to Governor Aycock asking that a pardon be granted him. Shoemaker will remain in Iredell county jail until Governor Aycock passes on the petition for pardon.

Mr. J. Allen Stevenson, who left Iredell 21 years ago to seek his fortune in the far West, has returned home, having amassed a fortune estimated at \$60,000. Mr. Stevenson has been making his home in Washington State. Before leaving Iredell Mr. Stevenson bore the distinction of being the strongest man in his section. He made no display of his physical powers but it was known of all men that he was a giant.

This evening at 6:30 o'clock Mr. H. M. Clifford and Miss Blanche Turner will be united in marriage. The young couple leave on the evening train for Charlotte and will go to Davie county to spend their honeymoon.

In Front Street Presbyterian church this evening Miss Lee Riffer and Mr. Joseph Hughey will be united in marriage. They will go North on an extensive bridal tour.

COTTON GOES SOARING BEYOND FOURTEEN CENTS

The New York Market was Irregular and Excited and Prices went Down and then Up--Influence of New Orleans.

The New Orleans Market Supported by Brown and His Friends--May Cotton went to 14:03 and Brown Took all in Sight

(By Associated Press.) New York, Dec. 23.—Great activity and irregularity marked the opening of the cotton market here today with prices showing great and rapid fluctuations. For a few minutes today the first quotations were a steady decline of four points to advance of seven points. The cable was a shade disappointing but the bull leaders buying for commission house client seemed to be of bull side of market and tips were circulating that big bulls intended to have the market on a fourteen cent basis before Christmas. After call the prices ruled very firm for a time but soon broke sharply under heavy liquidation, encouraged by rather reactionary tendency at New Orleans and expectations of speculative seaback. The declining tendency was soon checked, however. Renewed of first hour prices sent the market again soaring above all previous records with July in New Orleans selling around 14.11 and the entire list in the local market showing feverish strength.

New Orleans, Dec. 23.—In the cotton market the volume of today's business was colossal and the ring even more excited than yesterday. Prices fluctuated rapidly and widely. May sold above the 14 cent mark, Brown pushing it up to 14.03. He took about 10,000 bales of May around 13.90.

Brown was the central figure of this market during the morning. He bought heavily in several positions and forced March up to 13.85 from 13.63, and at 13.83 bid for 10,000 bales and he and his friends bought almost all most everything offered at the ring, time and again; in trading off this morning, May lost five points from the close of yesterday at 13.33, and then advanced 20 points to 14.03. Prices advanced and recovered unceasingly during the morning. Brown, his bull leader, several times furnishing much needed support.

In the cotton letter to Mr. G. A. Howell today, C. W. Lee & Co. say: There is a thing to be said on cotton. We have no desire to present new inducements which should lead every wise man to sell out his cotton. The market is wild and crazed and dazed. No one knows where he is or what he is doing. It is all one big maze. The craze to buy is on. Soon we will have the inflation which always has and will this time end in trouble. We do not care to have you on our side when the day of reckoning comes. Whatever may be the outcome however, the wild craze may carry prices higher than the 13-14, 13-12 and 13-34 cent of these two days there is but one course for the man of wisdom. Get out. Take the well-earned profits before the holidays and have the good wholesome quiet Christmas. Do not delay.

TORPEDO AND FERRY-BOAT.

The Winslow Collides with the Ferry-Boat America in East River. (By Associated Press.) New York, Dec. 23.—The torpedo boat Winslow was in a collision with the ferry boat America in the East River yesterday. The hull of the ferry boat was stove in and the torpedo boat was also injured. The Winslow was starting for Newport, but at once put back to the navy yard, which was reached without assistance.

The ferryboat, which was crowded with passengers, began to fill rapidly. As she was nearest the Manhattan shore the captain turned her around and managed to reach the Grand street pier in New York.

In the bow of the Winslow is a hole 14 inches in diameter, and the bow is badly twisted and bent. The torpedo boat was leaking badly and has been docked for repairs. She was commanded by Lieut. Chas. P. Nelson, and manned by a crew of forty men.

Christmas at Court House. Christmas day will be generally observed by the county officials at the Mecklenburg county court house and all of the offices will probably be closed. The present month has been a busy one with the county officers, who will gladly welcome the holiday.

(By Associated Press.) Bogota, Saturday, Dec. 19.—U. S. Minister Beaupre left here today for Cartagena.