

RAILROAD COM. MAKES REPORT

It Declares Against Federal Control

After investigation of the Subject It Declares Practically Impossible for Railroad Securities to Be Placed Under Government Control—Publicity is the Thing it Says—Democrats Originally Opposed Because an Invasion of State Rights—Now President Taft Agrees With the Commission's Findings.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 11.—The Railroad Securities Commission, headed by President Arthur T. Hadley, of Yale, has reported that it would be practically impossible at this time to place issues of railroad securities under Federal control. The commission recommends that enforced publicity for all railroad financing is the most effective weapon against stock watering which the government has at its command.

The commission was created in 1910, when the Senate refused to accept a House amendment to the pending railroad bill, providing that all future issue of stocks of railroad securities be placed under the control of the Interstate Commerce Commission. Many of the Senate Democrats opposed it as an invasion of States' rights. President Taft at the time told Republican leaders the party was committed to such a measure, but when it appeared impossible to pass it, the President agreed to have the clause eliminated, with the understanding that a commission to study the subject would be allowed. This was done and the commission began work in the autumn of 1910. Public hearings were held and Chairman Hadley studied the problem abroad.

The commission's report is distinctly adverse to the legislation proposed in the railroad bill. President Taft in transmitting the report to Congress today, declared that he heartily concurred in the recommendations.

The commission's principal conclusions are:

That any attempt by Congress to adopt the policy of Federal regulation to the exclusion of State regulation, would be premature.

That for the present, State authorities should make a concerted effort to harmonize existing requirements.

That Congress should prepare for the future by giving consideration to a Federal incorporation act which would permit Interstate railroads to exchange their State charters for national ones.

The commission takes the ground that constitutional questions involving the scope and extent of Federal authority are unsettled and will remain so for some time; and that while such a condition exists, to superimpose Federal regulation upon State regulation would add to the conflicts and complexities, which in the public interest, should rather be diminished than increased.

"Unless the constitutional power of Congress to regulate securities of Interstate railroads is definitely established as being exclusive of State control; either the Federal government and the States will come to a general understanding as to the principles to be adopted in the control of security issues, or the railroad systems will be given the opportunity to exchange their State charters for Federal ones," says the report.

"Until such exclusive jurisdiction can be established the creation of a separate administrative body subjecting the railroads to a new system of concurrent supervision, in addition to the many old ones which now exist does not seem just, expedient or economical."

For the present, the commission recommends that complete publicity be required to surround all issues of securities and that any Interstate railroad issuing stocks and bonds be required to furnish to the Interstate Commerce Commission a full statement of the details of the issue, the purposes for which the proceeds are to be used, and an accounting for the expenditures of such proceeds.

"Accurate knowledge of the facts surrounding the issue of securities, and the expenditure of the proceeds is the matter of most importance," the commission says. "It is the one thing upon which the Federal government can effectively insist today; it is the fundamental thing which must serve as a basis for whatever regulation may be desirable in the future."

"If full publicity be given we shall
(Continued on Sixth Page.)

FIGURES FOR COTTON CROP

Govt. Estimates Show Over 14 Million Bales

Department of Agriculture Issues Its Estimate of Cotton Crop of Season 1911-12, Placing Figures at 14,885,000 Bales—North Carolina Raises Nearly Million Bales.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The Department of Agriculture estimates the cotton crop of 1911-12 to be 7,121,713,000 pounds or 14,885,000 bales of 500 pounds gross weight. The production by States follows: Virginia, 23,000 bales; North Carolina, 935,000 bales; South Carolina, 1,480,000 bales; Georgia, 2,560,000 bales; Florida, 73,000 bales; Alabama, 1,600,000 bales; Mississippi, 1,195,000 bales; Louisiana, 395,000 bales; Texas, 4,280,000 bales; Arkansas, 915,000 bales; Tennessee, 420,000 bales; Missouri, 83,000 bales; Oklahoma, 915,000 bales; California, 11,000 bales.

WESTERN GOVERNORS

"DOING" NEW YORK

New York, Dec. 11.—The Western Governors' party was formally welcomed today by Mayor Gaynor in the city College Hall. The program of entertainment provided for State Executives included a visit to Grant Tomb, a water trip on one of the municipal department's steamers, and exhibition work by the fire boats.

"Ludwig From Germany," Big Edison success at the Grand today.



New York, Dec. 11.—Walter Drew, secretary of the National Erectors' Association, has acted as its counsel during the investigation that resulted in the arrest of the McNamaras. He says that only the first chapter has been ended, but that the future inquiry will be conducted by the United States authorities and that he expects to be "merely an interested spectator."

Mr. Morgan Sings Today
"I'm Going to Steal Some Other Fellow's Girl," Grand today.

SEVERE STORM MAY HIT SOUTH ATLANTIC

Washington, Dec. 11.—Indications of a severe storm, which may strike the South Atlantic States, are reported to the weather bureau from Turks Island, seven hundred miles from Miami, Florida. The bureau has issued cautionary advices to points along the South Atlantic. It is believed one of the storms of a West Indian hurricane of the season is on its way.

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"POISONED PEN" CASE ON TRIAL

Miss DeWitt Faces Jury in Federal Court

Woman Charged With Having Written Hundreds of Defamatory Letters to Ministers, Wives, Husbands and Others—One Minister Received Between Two and Three Hundred Such Epistles—He Was Called as the First Witness.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 11.—Miss Harriet DeWitt, of Easton, Pa., accused of wielding the "poisoned pen" that caused trouble in Easton church circles, was placed on trial in the United States District Court today. Judge McPherson, presiding. Miss DeWitt is charged with depositing in the mails obscene letters.

The letters which she is accused of sending to various persons were defamatory and penned during a period of about ten years. Their particular mark was Rev. Elmer E. Snyder, pastor of Christ Evangelical Lutheran church, Easton. All the letters were printed, some covering eight to ten pages. During ten years defamatory letters were received by married men, their wives, young brides and innocent girls. They created a great scandal. Miss DeWitt arrived in court today, accompanied by her father and mother. She was quite tastefully dressed. She is little more than 30 years old.

Rev. Snyder was the first witness. He was 29 and single when he took charge of the church in 1901. Miss DeWitt lived opposite the parsonage. He first met her at a church social affair. In the ten years period he said he received 200 or 300 anonymous letters, all of improper nature. Snyder married last June.

"What were Miss DeWitt's actions towards you the last year or so?" he was asked.

"I passed her on the street she would throw her head up and sometimes make faces."

Several times, Snyder testified, that Miss DeWitt hissed at him, as he passed down the street. He said she acted insultingly toward his wife.

GIRL WHO PASSED AS WHITE FOUND DEAD

Philadelphia, Dec. 11.—The police are investigating the mysterious death of Mary F. Harmon, aged eighteen, found in the bed-room of her apartment, supposedly dead from gas asphyxiation. Near her on the floor was the unconscious form of the girl's negro maid, aged 40. A strange feature of the case is that while the girl was supposedly white, and the maid a mulatto, the girl really had negro blood and was the daughter of a woman who lived with her as a servant. The police say the girl was the daughter of an Englishman, who once was a choir member in a Baltimore church. The girl was educated in a leading seminary and passed as white. She was a good musician. The mother is unconscious in a hospital. If she recovers she may throw light on the mysterious case. Among the girl's effects were fifteen pawn tickets, showing \$228 had been borrowed on jewelry. Five bank books were examined. These showed that in one, a Baltimore bank, in nineteen dollars, the girl had eighteen hundred dollars on deposit. She had large deposits in other banks. All deposits had been withdrawn, except five dollars.

THE 6-DAY BICYCLE RACE IS ONCE MORE ON

New York, Dec. 11.—The 6-day bicycle race—the nineteenth renewal of this annual feature—has lost none of its popularity. Fifteen teams started around the saucer track in Madison Square Garden and the spectators crowded the Garden prepared to watch the endurance of the riders. There were many spills in the early hours of the race and many narrow escapes. The pace from the start was swift.

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Washington, Dec. 11.—Members of the McNamara ways and means committee, after a session lasting two days, issued a statement concerning the affair, which denounces the confessed dynamiters and their crimes and also denounces the manner of their arrest and transfer to California. The claim is made that the treatment of the prisoners gave reason for believing that they were innocent and that the evidence against them was flimsy. The statement is signed by Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor; Frank Morrison, secretary; James A. Short, president of the building trades department, and William J. Spencer, secretary of the same department; James O'Connell, president of the metal trades department, and A. J. Berris, secretary, and John B. Lennon and Thomas F. Tracey, president and secretary of the union label trades department. Mr. Gompers showed a disinclination to have his picture taken by covering his face when a camera was aimed at him.

MORE TROUBLE

Bobs Up For Commissioners of Wake County in Another Law Suit—More Warm Politics For the Capital City—State Horticulturist Back With Big Prizes Won by the Old North State in Missouri.

Dispatch News Bureau.
Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 11, 1911.

W. E. Stinson, who was ousted from the position of road superintendent of Wake county last April, has filed a claim with the board of county commissioners for \$875, the amount of his salary for the time of ejection to last Monday, when his term would have expired. Mr. Stinson was elected to the office to succeed the late William Allen, but the so-called "good government" faction carried the legislature and forthwith proceeded to frame a law that would divorce Mr. Stinson from his job and the emoluments thereof. The process was accomplished by changing the title of the officer from road superintendent to road supervisor. It is interesting to note in this connection that the law relegating Mr. Stinson to the rear was secured by Senator Sikes, who also has the distinction of having introduced the health act that bore the "McCullers" name.

The commissioners have not taken any action in the matter of the claim, and it is understood that Mr. Stinson will take the matter to the courts. Wake county commissioners are getting accustomed to dissensions and lawsuits and one litigation more or less is not expected to disturb the equilibrium of the members.

Some political issues are being made these days and when two of the old members—the only ones whose terms will expire next year—offer for re-election, it is expected that a real lively campaign will be the result. Some of the "leaders" in this county think that the way to progress is to and scrap all the time.

Mr. W. N. Hutt, state horticulturist, returned Sunday from St. Joe, Mo., where he attended the National Horticultural Congress, and brought back for North Carolina the grand sweepstakes and several other prizes of the first and second order. He related the pleasing fact that the Iowa exhibitors bought a lot of the Carolina apples to carry home for the purpose of showing apple-growers in that state just what a Tar Heel prize-winner is. It is confidently expected that the result of North Carolina's showing at this congress will be many thousands of dollars invested in this state. Mr. S. B. Shaw, Mr. Hutt's assistant, has also

WON'T REVIEW IT

United States Supreme Court Declines to Interfere at This Time in the Tobacco Trust Re-organization Plan—Decision Came on Application Made by Leaf Tobacco Board of Trade of New York.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The United States Supreme Court has declined to interfere at this time with the decree of the United States Circuit Court, for Southern New York, thus approving the reorganization plan of the "tobacco trust."

Attorneys for the Leaf Tobacco Board of Trade, of New York city, Monday asked the Supreme Court to review the decree, and require the court to vacate its order approving the decree and compel it to recognize the Leaf Tobacco Board of Trade of New York, as a party to the litigation.

JUROR STRANGELY MISSING IN MURDER CASE

Kansas City, Dec. 11.—Harry Waldron, a juror in the trial of Dr. B. Clark Hyde, for murdering Colonel Thomas H. Swope, has disappeared, and the trial has been held up. Deputy marshals guarding the jury in a hotel found the transom torn from Waldron's door this morning and Waldron was gone. A mistrial may result.

Domestic troubles, it is said, caused Waldron to grow restless under confinement as a juror. Deputies are searching for him.

Christmas Trees, Christmas Trees, Christmas Trees—A fine lot will be here on next week's steamer, Monday, Dec. 18th. Kindly send or phone your orders. C. B. Bellows, Produce Dealer, 16 North 2nd St. Phone 1576. de. 11 6t

returned home.
Mr. Walter Green, known by his hosts of friends as "general," has resigned his position as nightwatchman at the agricultural building and will, it is said, go to Florida to make his home. He is succeeded by Mr. Charles Cration, a former police officer. "General" Green kept open house at all hours of the night and his warm quarters was the general rendezvous of a choice set of friends old and young, who dropped in to chat and smoke. The "general" will certainly be missed.

"Ludwig From Germany," Big Edison success at the Grand today.

TRYING TO FORCE ROOSEVELT IN CONCERTED ACTION TO MAKE HIM NOMINEE

Strong Movement Makes Itself Manifest and Republican National Committee Being Sounded—Roosevelt Supporters Are Against Instructed Delegations—Taft Followers Declare to Turn Down Their Man Will Discredit the Party.

Washington, Dec. 11.—All attempts to disguise the fact that a concerted movement is on foot looking to the nomination of Colonel Theodore Roosevelt as the Republican candidate for President in 1912 were apparently dropped when it became known that National Committee members were being sounded as to their view of the feasibility of "forcing" the nomination on the former President.

On the eve of assembling of the National Republican Committee in quadrennial session here tomorrow, little was talked of today but the prospective attitude of Roosevelt. It became known that several prominent Republicans, on their way to Washington to attend the conference, stopped over in New York and had long talks with Roosevelt, and that still others made engagements to see him either at New York or Oyster Bay, following a meeting of the National Committee. Roosevelt supporters, now here, are basing all their arguments in his behalf on the claim that while Roosevelt announced he is not a candidate, he has not stated he would not accept the nomination if it were tendered him. They claim that "as a good American citizen Roosevelt could not do otherwise than accept, once the convention acted."

No attempt, it was said, would be made to bring the Roosevelt sentiment to a focus now. The hope of his supporters is to achieve victory in the convention. They are pressing the argument that delegates should go to the convention uninstructed. Friends of President Taft are meeting the Roosevelt sentiment everywhere and assert that the movement is a well directed one. They are urging Taft's nomination on the ground that to refuse to endorse his administration would be to discredit the party.

THE McNAMARAS NOW IN SAN QUENTIN PRISON

Los Angeles, Dec. 11.—With the McNamara brothers at the State Penitentiary, the case divided itself into two parts today—one being the preliminary examination of Burt H. Franklin, charged with bribing a prospective juror, and the other the conference between Oscar Lawler, the Special Government Prosecutor and several witnesses summoned to appear tomorrow before the Federal Grand Jury to tell what they know about the alleged dynamiting conspiracies. It is stated that Orrie E. McManical, the confessed dynamiter, will soon go to Indianapolis to lay the foundation for an inquiry there and is taken to mean here that the Grand Jury would conclude consideration of the conspiracy subject by the end of the week.

DON'T LEAP

In the dark with your Christmas money. Of course, you may land on a soft, grassy spot, but you may also land on sharp rocks, in the mud, or amid briar bushes. The odds are on the latter every time. Why

TAKE THE RISK?
So before plunging read carefully

All Dispatch Ads

Illicit Selling Charged.
Robert London, a negro was arrested at Toppall Sound today by United States Deputy Marshal C. O. Knox, charged with retailing spirituous liquors in violation of the United States laws. The man was brought here and was carried before United States Commissioner George Harris. London gave bond. The preliminary hearing will be held later.

SIXTEEN BODIES FOUND SO FAR

Rescue Parties Have Dug Far Into the Tennessee Mine and Are Still at Work—Weeping Women and Children Crowd the Entrance—Many Coffins Await to Receive the Victims—Over Hundred Thought Dead.

Briceville, Tenn., Dec. 11.—With sixteen bodies recovered and identified, rescue parties have renewed their digging in an attempt to force the Big Cross Mountain mine to surrender its dead. With three miles into the mountain explored and most of the mine's cross entries bratticed, the rescue crews hourly expect to stumble into corpse strewing the chambers. One hundred or more are believed to be dead in the mine. All hope of rescuing any who went into the mine Saturday, has been abandoned. Weeping wives, who were made widows by Saturday's dust blast, crowded the shaft entrances this morning, to meet their dead. In a warehouse, near the mine entrance, are great numbers of coffins, awaiting their occupants. Of the corpses found last night three lay bold upright in a mine car. Five lay on the ground.

The first body discovered this morning was Andrew Johnson. He was found in a sitting posture in one of the interior chambers. Red Cross camp has begun work for relief of the suffering. It is estimated that the explosion rendered 56 women widows and made 184 children orphans.

CHORUS GIRL FACES
RAKING CROSS FIRE

New York, Dec. 11.—Pale and nervous Lillian Graham, who, with Ethel Conrad, a fellow-chorus girl, is on trial for shooting W. E. D. Stokes, the millionaire, today faced cross-examination by Prosecutor Buckner. She admitted she knew when she went to the Ansonia Hotel, in 1900, that Stokes was divorced and she knew Stokes had no intention of marrying again. She said her acquaintance was only friendship. Miss Graham denied she knew of Stokes' relations with women. The prosecutor's examination was based mainly on the letters exchanged by the witness and Stokes. She was repeatedly asked to explain certain endearing terms found in the letters to the millionaire. The girl's mouth twitched nervously occasionally.



San Francisco, Dec. 11.—J. C. Stubbs, traffic chief of the Harriman system, who will retire from the service of the railroad at the end of the year, will be placed on the pension roll. As a reward for his forty-one years of work he will receive \$18,000 a year for life. Stubbs will be No. 461 on the pension roll. Just ahead of him is George Cuthbert, a negro employee of the land department of the Southern Pacific, who was placed on the pension roll as No. 460. He has been in the company's employ thirty-five years and has a snot lost a day.

Bryan Will Soon Be Back.
Colon, Dec. 11.—William Jennings Bryan has arrived, but he leaves for the United States Thursday via Jamaica.