

JOINS WITH CANADA.

UNITED STATES TO CO-OPERATE IN REGULATING RAILROADS.

Commerce Commission Suspends Increased Freight Rates Until It Can Investigate Reasonableness.

Washington, July 15.—An international railway commission, with supervisory authority over certain railroads of the United States and Canada, probably will be the result of action taken today by this government in the appointment of Chairman Martin A. Knapp, of the Inter-State Commerce Commission, as the representative of the United States to confer with Hon. J. P. Mabey, chief of the Railway Commission of Canada. Announcement of Judge Knapp's appointment was made by the department today as follows:

"The Secretary of State has designated Hon. Martin A. Knapp, chairman of the Inter-State Commerce Commission, as the representative of this government to confer with the recently appointed Canadian representative, Hon. J. P. Mabey, chairman of the Railway Commission of Canada on the subject of the joint control of international traffic rates. It is understood that meetings between Mr. Knapp and Mr. Mabey will be arranged at once to take place at points in the United States or Canada, or both, during the remainder of the summer. Upon the completion of the conferences a report with recommendations will be made by the Commissioners, either jointly to both governments or separately to their respective governments."

The appointment of Judge Knapp and Mr. Mabey is the result of a considerable period of correspondence and diplomatic interchange between the United States and Canada. More than a year ago the subject was broached first in a letter from Mr. Mabey to Judge Knapp. Acquisition of Canadian terminals by American roads and terminals by Canadian railroads presented ever-increasing difficulties. In the present circumstances, it is not possible to compel railroads or express companies to establish joint through rates to and from points in the two countries. The Inter-State Commerce Commission may require roads under its jurisdiction to establish through routes and joint rates, and the Canadian commission may require the lines under its jurisdiction to do the same; but neither body can compel two or more carriers to do this with international traffic and furnish to the shipper a through bill of lading from any point in one country to any point in the other.

The difficulties at present practically preclude any inquiry by existing tribunals into the reasonableness of combination through rates as applied to international traffic. No power at present exists that can require carriers engaged in this international transportation to establish reasonable through joint rates.

Out of this situation grew the suggestion that a joint international commission should be created, which should have supervisory authority over all inter-State and international transportation lines, whether by rail or water, between the two countries. It has not been determined yet whether such a commission might better be created by concurrent legislation or established through treaty.

The negotiations have been conducted by the State Department and by the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs. Chairman Knapp and Mr. Mabey will meet in Ottawa some time in August, and a subsequent conference may be held in Washington. The conferees may be able to submit a report and recommendations before congress meets in December.

The commission announced today its intention to suspend all tariffs naming general and important rate advances, pending an investigation as to the reasonableness of the proposed increases.

"No more definite statement in this regard can now be made," says the commission, "but the specific orders will be announced from time to time as they are entered and served. It is expected that the suspension in each case will be for 120 days from the effective date named in the tariff, but the commission intends by subsequent orders to provide for making effective on the same day each advance as may be allowed."

It is the purpose of the commission to exercise its authority to suspend rate advances only in such instances of the filing of tariffs as might indicate that such action was desirable on the grounds of public policy. In other words, if the commission should be convinced that any given advance would work a hardship to a considerable territory and to large shipping interests, through the policy it has adopted it would suspend that tariff pending an inquiry into the reasonableness of the rates named.

Under the law it will be necessary for the commission to attach to each tariff suspended its order of suspension and to notify the carriers of its action. At an early date the commis-

sion will take up in a formal hearing the suspended tariffs. It will be incumbent upon the railroads to show reasonable cause for the advance, the burden of proof of reasonableness being upon the carriers.

The commission today announced its refusal to suspend the increased commutation rates in and out of New York city, which were the subject of discussion at a hearing last Tuesday. An investigation was directed. The rates will go into effect on July 20.

This announcement indicates that the commission concludes that it has jurisdiction over commutation rates. The fact that subsequently it is to determine the reasonableness of these rates indicates that it will exercise authority to reduce them if, in the judgment of the commission, they are deemed to be high. Commissioners Clements and Prouty, of the five Commissioners who were present and voting, dissented from the view of the majority in its refusal to suspend the rates.

Advances made by the Boston and Maine Railroad and other carriers announcing increased rates on milk from New England points to Boston have been suspended pending a determination of their reasonableness. The proposed increase would mean an advance of at least 1 cent a quart in the price of milk in Biston.

GONE TO SERVE SENTENCES.

Three Prisoners Sent to Penitentiary This Morning.

Three prisoners, convicted at this term of court, were transferred from the jail on Saturday to the State penitentiary, where they will begin serving their respective sentences.

They are: Charlie Graham, white, convicted of stealing a bicycle, and sentenced to serve three years; Ransome Gadsden, an old crippled negro, convicted of selling liquor and given an eighteen months' sentence, and Hannah Taylor, also colored, who was convicted of selling liquor and given a sentence of six months.

Hannah, it will be remembered was the prisoner who informed Jailor Owens of the plan to escape, concocted by a number of prisoners, and there was talk, at the time, of getting up a petition to set her free.

NOT A CANDIDATE.

County Superintendent of Education Will Not Seek Re-election.

Mr. S. D. Cain, who is now serving his fourth consecutive term as county superintendent of education, stated Saturday that he has decided not to be a candidate for re-election. It has been no secret amongst Mr. Cain's friends that he has been seriously considering this step for sometime, and his announcement causes no surprise. In fact two years ago he had practically decided not to seek re-election, but yielded to the solicitations of friends. Those who are familiar with Mr. Cain's good work will regret his retirement from office, and those who have believed that they have had grounds for criticism of his administration will find that his place will be hard to fill, for he did a great deal of valuable work for the betterment of the public schools of Sumter county in an unobtrusive yet efficient manner. The salary of the county superintendent of education is altogether inadequate and any competent man will find that it is a sacrifice to hold the office.

MUST CALL FOR RECEIPT.

Change in Regulations Regarding Registered Mail.

Washington, July 15.—An interesting change in regulations affecting registration of postal matter is noted in an order just issued by the postmaster general. Whenever request is made by the sender of registered mail matter, receipt showing person to whom and time when the matter was delivered will be taken by postmaster at point of delivery and returned to sender. "Receipt desired" must be inscribed, however, on the registered matter for which the sender wishes such a receipt. For the present the postmaster general instructs postmasters to ask if return receipt is desired, and, where indicated, to indorse mail for patrons of the office.

New Locomotive Brake.

Willard R. Chandler, an engineer on a local freight from Branchville to Columbia has recently had patented a brake for locomotives and tenders that promises to make a great change in the controlling of trains while in motion. About a year ago Mr. Chandler had an engine with a poor brake. Failing to get it remedied, either by his own work or that of the shops, he determined to make a brake to assist the old ones. So when the determination had been made he set to work. The work was done in spare moments while at his home here and whenever a moment could be secured.—Branchville Journal.

COTTON TARE CASE.

APPEAL DISMISSED IN SUPREME COURT.

In Few Words State's Highest Tribunal Affirmed Lower Court's Decision in Interesting Case.

Columbia, July 14.—In fewer words, perhaps, than it has taken the Supreme Court to tell of much less important cases, that tribunal yesterday, in an opinion being handed down by Justice Eugene B. Gary, dismisses the appeal of W. G. Mullins in the now famous cotton tare case, involving nearly \$2,000,000.

The court says: "The facts are set out in the order of his honor the circuit judge, which is affirmed for the reasons therein stated." Appeal dismissed.

Justice Woods, concurring in a separate opinion, says:

"I concur. The statute attacked as unconstitutional does nothing more than fix the maximum quantity of bagging and ties which shall be regarded for trade purpose as a component part of a bale of cotton. The important public purpose of the certain and uniform rule laid down by the statute is to induce fairness and prevent disputes between buyers and sellers of the chief commercial product of the State; and the certainty and uniformity which will probably have this result make the statute reasonably adapted to the public purpose in view. There is no substantial interference with freedom of contract for, of course, buyers and sellers in agreeing on a price will have in view the bagging and ties which under the statute must be treated as a part of the bale of cotton."

W. N. KENNEDY FOUND GUILTY.

White Man Convicted of Criminal Assault on Colored Girl.

Spartanburg, July 13.—Guilty, with a recommendation to mercy, was the verdict returned this afternoon in the case of W. N. Kennedy, a white man charged with criminal assault on a colored girl under the age of 14 years. The case was one of the most interesting that has been heard in General Sessions Court in Spartanburg for some time.

Presiding Judge Gruber made a very strong charge to the jury. The jury remained out more than an hour before reaching a verdict. Without the mercy plea, the punishment would have been hanging. It is in the discretion of the court to give them from five to forty years' imprisonment.

DIES A MARTYR TO SCIENCE.

Dr. Mirhan K. Kassabian Contracted Cancer From X-Ray Burns.

Philadelphia, July 15.—Dr. Mirhan K. Kassabian, one of the best known X-ray specialists in the United States, died at a hospital here today from skin cancer contracted from burns received during many years of practice with Roentgen rays.

In common with practically all other skiagraphers, Dr. Kassabian had suffered for many years with superficial burns induced by the mysterious energy given off in the X-ray. In 1902 Dr. Kassabian's hands were seriously burned, and again, in 1908, two fingers on his left hand were amputated. Last year an operation was performed on his left arm pit, which had been attacked by the same malady. Several glands were removed and the wounds dressed, but they refused to heal by first intention and shortly afterward a much more serious operation had to be made on the left pectoral muscles.

After this operation it was found that the whole left side had been affected and the doctor's condition was pronounced critical. Ten days ago he went to the hospital in a dying condition.

Dr. Kassabian was born in Asia Minor in 1868. He was graduated from the missionary school of Argens, and, in 1894, he came to this country. He entered the Medico-Chirurgical Medical College and was graduated from that institution in 1898.

In 1907 Dr. Kassabian published a book on electro-therapeutics, which has been a standard work. His numerous papers on the subject have, in common with other medical publications, carefully refrained from mentioning the dangers of X-ray experimentation.

D. J. Simmons, who is farming on the Cook place near town, is in the corn contest this year and the farmer that leads him certainly has fine corn. Mr. Simmons has three acres of the finest corn ever seen in this section of South Carolina and the prospects are for a crop of over two hundred bushels to the acre. He has used about a ton and a half of fertilizer to the acre and the returns point to a paying investment on the amount used.

This corn is so fine that it is worth driving miles to see it.—Timmonsville Enterprise.

CROP REPORT VERIFIED.

Commissioner Watson Bears Out the News and Courier's Summary.

Columbia, July 13.—Col. E. J. Watson bore out today the summary of crop conditions in South Carolina as given in today's News and Courier. From the office of the department of agriculture there will soon be issued the midsummer crop report, which will reflect the exact conditions.

Col. Watson said today: "Crop conditions in South Carolina during the past month have deteriorated rapidly, due almost entirely to the excessive and continuous rainfall. The farms generally throughout the State, according to all reports received in this office, and through those co-operating with this department, are what the farmers term "in the grass," and both the staple crops of corn and cotton have been most materially set back. Unless there be an immediate dry spell, production is bound to be most seriously affected. So far as all the leading crops are concerned, it will require the immediate cessation of rains and then a great deal of exceedingly hard work and a large expenditure for labor and top fertilizer dressing to save a good portion of both the crops of corn and cotton, which promised up to five weeks ago to be as fine as any we ever had in the State. A late fall will also figure prominently in the outlook.

"This department is now collecting exact data from all parts of the State and will shortly issue a midseason crop report, in which the endeavor will be made to reflect the exact conditions."

ATLANTIC FLEET ITINERARY.

Navy Department Gives Out Journey For European Cruise of Atlantic Squadron.

Washington, July 15.—The detailed itinerary of the European cruise of the Atlantic fleet, comprising 16 battleships, the auxiliary cruiser Dixie and torpedo boat destroyers, the converted yacht Yankton, the hospital ship Solace and the supply ship Culgoa, was announced by the navy department today.

The vessels of the fleet will leave their various home yards and rendezvous and meet at a convenient point in the Atlantic ocean, thence proceeding by divisions until it becomes necessary to separate in accordance with their itinerary. The first date of departure is October 26, when the Yankton will leave New York and the last date is January 16, when the battleships will arrive at Guantanamo for the usual maneuvers, including target practice. The ports included in the itinerary are Ville Franche, Naples, Gibraltar, Toulon, Genoa, Phalerum Bay, Alexandria, Barcelona, Lisbon, Marseilles, Ponta del Gada, Leghorn, Algiers and Madeira.

All of the fleet except the third division, the destroyers, the Dixie, the Yankton and the Solace, will spend Christmas at Gibraltar. And even the Solace will arrive in there during the holidays.

INFORMATION—WANTED.

Do the People of Sumter Want Baseball?

The Sumter Collegians have just finished a series of three games with Lake City and a double header with Columbia, taking four games straight and giving the fifth game away because they say we always win. The total gate receipts from the five games amounted to \$40, an average of \$8 a game, and the expenses of having the teams in Sumter for the five games amounted to \$115, so it looks as if the Sumter Collegians "get off" \$75 in the hole.

Isn't that a lovely state of affairs for the "Game Cock City" to be guilty of? You all won't come out to the games and pay your quarter like little men, but you will ask the first one you see after the game who won, and how many home runs Peyton Moore made, that shows there must be some interest.

Sumter—yes your Sumter has as fast an amateur team as any in the State, although a great, great many people don't know it, because they have never honored us with either their presence, nor their quarter.

The Sumter Collegians will play a series of three games with a strong team from Cartersville on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week and these games will decide whether we finish out our schedule with Summerton, Charleston, Orangeburg, Branchville and others, or whether it shall go down in history that the people of Sumter are dead, and don't know it. The game on Wednesday will start at 6 o'clock, and the band, the pride of Sumter and South Carolina, we hope to have with us.

Now my friends its up to you. JACK FORBES, Manager.

The way to get out of self-love is to love God.—Phillips Brooks.

MAHON MAKES DENIAL.

LONE FEATURE OF HAMPTON CAMPAIGN MEETING.

Greenville Candidate For Railroad Commissioner Uses Strong Language in Denying Alleged Report That He is the Railroads' Candidate—Otherwise, Usual Speeches Made in Usual Manner Before Usual Crowd—Beaufort Today.

Hampton, July 13.—The vehement denial of Mr. G. H. Mahon, of Greenville, of a report that he said was being circulated to the effect that he was the railroads' candidate for railroad commissioner, featured the meeting of the candidates at Hampton today. For two weeks or more the candidates for railroad commissioner have been more or less spicy in this talk, but the climax came today, when Mr. Mahon called his alleged slanderer an "infamous liar."

The candidates for Governor spoke, but there was nothing of special interest in their remarks. The meeting was held in a large grove and about three hundred men, women and children were present. Mr. F. H. Hyatt, of Columbia, was not present. Mr. E. W. Duvall, candidate for Lieutenant Governor, joined the party today. P. H. Gooding presided and the Rev. W. H. Dowling opened the meeting with prayer.

The candidates for Adjutant General spoke first, and were followed by those for railroad commissioner. Cansler, of Tirzah, declared that he did not intend to offend the preachers at Barnwell yesterday, and said nobody loved the ministers more than he. Messrs. Hampton and Scarborough made their usual good speeches, and Mr. Mahon declared that his detractor was a liar.

Of the candidates for Governor, Thos. G. McLeod spoke first. He discussed education, taxation, local option and the other subjects. Major John G. Richards stood flatly on his former platform, but discussed the other questions at some length.

Cole L. Blease ended his speech by quoting a famous hymn, "Just As I Am, Without One Plea." He appealed to the audience to let well enough alone in the whiskey situation. Jno.

New York, July 13.—The indictments found by the Federal grand jury in the United States circuit court of June 18 in the cases against James H. Patten, William P. Brown, J. D. Haynes, S. T. Harmon, C. A. Kittle, E. G. Scales, Morris Rothchild and R. M. Thompson, accused of conspiracy and restraint of trade in their cotton operations, it was learned today, have been found to be defective and have been set aside as a result of pleas of abatement, filed on July 5 by each of the defendants separately, claiming that said indictments were not valid on the ground that the grand jury was not legally convoked. Another grand jury has been called and the matter is now receiving their consideration.

STRIKE MAY BE AVERTED.

Pennsylvania Road and Men May Come to Terms.

Pittsburg, Pa., July 15.—A crisis which seemed threatening today, in wage discussions between the Pennsylvania Railroad and their 25,000 conductors and trainmen was considerably cleared up tonight. After a two hours' conference between railroad officials and a committee representing the 10,000 men involved on lines west of Pittsburg, it was announced by the committee tonight that negotiations were still on and the situation was much less strained.

This came after word reached Pittsburg, from Philadelphia today, that the situation in the East hinged entirely on developments here and that a strike call might be issued at once if the Western officials of the road refused the mens' demands.

MORE COTTON MILLS.

Newberry is to Have Another Big Plant Soon.

Columbia, July 14.—South Carolina seems on the eve of a revival of mill construction. On top of the announcement for a plant called Conemara Mills, at Laurens, and the establishment of a four hundred thousand spindle mill on the Clinchfield road, above Spartanburg, comes the news that Newberry is to have another big cotton factory, rivaling in size the two she now has. The details have not been worked out, but the erection of the plant is assured.

A friend that you have to buy won't be worth what you pay for him, no matter what that may be.—George D. Prentice.

The Baptist summer assembly of the State will be held on Furman University campus, beginning the last of this week.

Error of opinion may be tolerated where reason is left free to combat it.—Thomas Jefferson.

TORREN'S SYSTEM ADVOCATED.

Registration of Lands to Decrease Cost of Transfer.

To the Editor of The State:

The purpose of this article is to call the attention of the land owners of the State to the burdens under which they are laboring in the annual payment of many thousands of dollars for the useless investigation of titles and the lack of credit they meet in the money markets of the world. Every man in the State who owns land, however small the amount may be, knows how difficult it is for him to go to any of the money lending institutions of our country and obtain a loan for the improvement of his property or for the promotion of new enterprises. A national bank will not make a loan at all with real estate as security and the process by which it is obtained from a State bank or an individual is very expensive. The natural question is Why? Because of the cumbersome, tedious and troublesome procedures in our courts for collecting the same in case the borrower fails to repay the money at the proper time and the enormous expense incurred in investigating titles. Compare the case of a real estate owner with the owner of bank stock and see the difference. The bank stock owner can write his name across the certificate which he holds and go to almost any money lender and obtain a loan equal almost to the face value of the stock without any expense whatever. The published reports of the bank, together with the report of the bank examiner, show the condition of the bank financially, hence practically no time is lost in ascertaining the value of the stock in the market, and in the transferring of the stock no cumbersome and expensive procedure has to be gone through with.

On the other hand, the owner of real estate is flatly refused any loan at all from a national bank, and if one is obtained from any other source considerable expense is incurred in the investigation of titles, drawing up of papers, etc., all of which could be obviated if we had the Torren's system. Every time a piece of property changes hands these same expensive details have to be paid for, however satisfactory the title is to the present owner. The result of all this is a lack of proper appreciation of land as security and a lethargy in business where real estate is involved.

For example, take a concrete case which recently came within my own knowledge. Only a few months ago Mr. A. bought a tract of land from Mr. B. who was perfectly satisfied with his title, he having had it investigated when he purchased it some years before. While the owner assured Mr. A. that he believed the title all right, still Mr. A. in fairness to himself, paid an attorney to investigate it for him. A few months later this land was to be used as a security for a loan and another attorney's fee had to be paid for investigating this same land, although just as good lawyer had said, only a short time previous that the title to it was perfectly good. Now, if this piece of property were to change hands each year or had to be used as security with a new party the same expensive details and delay would have to be met. Such a burden as this always confronting you hampers business enterprises when everybody, who has any knowledge of real estate at all knows there is no better security, so far as actual worth is concerned, in the world.

Now, if real estate is as good or better property than bank stock, then why shouldn't we have some system by which it could be used or transferred as easily as the bank stock? Such a system would be an incentive to the improvement of all real estate, to the establishment of new enterprises and to the betterment of all concerned, buyer, seller, borrower and lender. There is no class or profession of people who would not be the beneficiary of such a plan. There are some second class lawyers who now oppose it on the ground that it would deprive them of a few fees for investigating titles, forgetting that while they might lose in one direction, they would make decided gains in another in aiding the establishment of new enterprises which usually requires the assistance of some attorney.

It is this change in the method of handling our real estate that the Torren's system purposes to meet and this being election year every voter in the State who owns any real estate should see that he casts his vote for the candidate as a member of the legislature who favors such or a similar system. Citizen.

Charleston Bank Makes Application. Washington, July 12.—The Germania Savings Bank, of Charleston, has made application to the post-office department to be made a depository for postal savings funds.

The hammer and the anvil are the two hemispheres of every true reformer's character.—Timothy Titcomb.