

COMMISSION TO HEAR PLEA FOR RAIL RATE HIKE

U. S. Officials Surprised at 'Bold' Demand of Carriers.

BY H. O. THOMPSON
United Press Staff Correspondent
WASHINGTON, June 18.—The first reaction of officials who must pass upon the petition of the nation's railroads for a 15 per cent increase in freight rates was disclosed today to be one of surprise that the carriers had made such a bold and in some respects revolutionary demand.

The machinery for official consideration of the document was set in motion as soon as the petition was filed with the interstate commerce commission Wednesday.

A meeting was set for Saturday between a committee of the interstate commerce commission and a committee representing state railroad commissions.

Sees Threat in Trucks

The various state railroad and utility commissions, interested in the petition because intrastate as well as interstate rates are concerned, have been informed by John E. Benton, general solicitor, that the document "in some respects is a surprising paper."

The letter sent out by Benton expressed surprise that the carriers, realizing the inroads truck competition might make if rail rates were increased, actually proposed to increase all rates.

"The carriers really intend to do themselves the injury which would result from thus increasing all rates regardless of consequences seems scarcely possible. They doubtless depend upon the regulatory commissions to save them from their own proposal, he said.

Dwindling Revenue Stressed

"The second surprising thing about the application is that it openly asks the commission to authorize their proposed increases without passing upon the reasonableness of the rates which will be produced thereby."

The petition, stressing the emergency which confronts railroads because of dwindling revenues and instability of their securities, asked the commission to waive the usual extensive investigation. An inquiry by the commission, the carriers urged, should "be of a limited character and should be for the purpose of reaching a determination as to whether or not the general schedules of rates and charges proposed should be permitted to become effective without suspension."

TIMES CONTEST TRIO SEE LINDY'S PLANE

Smithsonian Institute Also Inspected on Trip to Washington.

By Times Special
WASHINGTON, D. C., June 18.—Lindy's plane and the oddities of the Smithsonian institute was the cynosure of the eyes of The Indianapolis Times popularity contest winners when they visited this city Wednesday and the naval academy at Annapolis.

The contest winners, Miss Birdie Williams and Richard Harold, accompanied by their chaperon, Mrs. W. D. Eastland, and 300 other Hoosiers took advantage of the Lyric theater's excursion to the nation's capital.

"It's been some week," the popularity winners agreed as they prepared for their return to Indianapolis to recount to school-mates of the "rubberneck" jaunts and what they saw.

STATE BOARD HEARS PETITIONS FOR ROADS

Waveland Citizens Ask Extension of No. 59 from Bellmore.

Open meeting was held Wednesday by the state highway commission to hear petitions for roads in various sections of the state.

A delegation from Waveland asked the road No. 59 be extended north from No. 36 at Bellmore to Waveland.

Citizens of Warsaw, Goshen, Elkhart, Etna Green, Mentone and Akron petition for an extension of No. 19 south to Peru.

State Senator Clinton Stenker and Representative John Bachelder petitioned a group from Winamac and Monticello which asked that a highway be constructed following the Tippecanoe river from between those two points through Buffalo.

U. S. DIPLOMAT IS ILL

Ralph Booth, Minister to Denmark, Suffers from Pneumonia.

WASHINGTON, June 18.—The state department announced Wednesday that Ralph H. Booth, American minister to Denmark, was reported seriously ill at the Kaiserhof hotel at Bab Gastein, Austria.

Booth, a Detroit newspaper publisher, was said by the American legation at Copenhagen to be suffering from pneumonia. The minister recently left his post for the Austrian resort. His wife and daughter are with him.

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TWELVE STATES TO SEEK TRUCK LICENSE PEACE

Conference at French Lick Called to Attempt Reciprocity.

End of the truck license warfare that annually flares between states will be the goal of a conference to be held by executives of twelve states at French Lick, June 30.

On suggestion of Frank May Jr., secretary of state, heads of the motor vehicle departments and public service commissioners will discuss reciprocity between states on li-

censes. James W. Carpenter, head of the Indiana department, will attend with May.

Announcement of the meeting followed receipt by the public service commission of a letter from the Georgia commission, stating Indiana trucks must comply with the new regulations enacted by the Georgia legislature.

An effort was made in May to reach an agreement, but then it was decided to consider the matter further at a later meeting.

For several years states have impounded Indiana trucks or threatened such measures; in turn Indiana has threatened retaliation.

States, representatives of which will attend the meeting, in addition to Indiana: Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Missouri, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, West Virginia, Michigan and Virginia.

A machine is being developed by the American Machine and Foundry company that will produce 2,000 cigarettes a minute.

It generally was hoped that the conversations would lead to allevi-

ALL EYES ON MELLON AS HE VISITS BRITAIN

Foreign Nations Hope World Depression Relief May Be Result.

BY HERBERT MOORE
United Press Staff Correspondent
LONDON, June 18.—High significance was attached today to the conversations which Andrew Mellon, United States secretary of the treasury, is having here with government and banking leaders.

It generally was hoped that the conversations would lead to allevi-

ation of the world's financial and trade depression.

Mellon, despite reiterations on his arrival that he was here "not on serious business," conferred at length with Premier J. Ramsay MacDonald and Foreign Secretary Arthur Henderson Wednesday, at the house of commons. He subsequently met Montagu Norman, head of the Bank of England.

The conversations in both instances were confidential. However, it was said that the premier and Henderson discussed the problem of war debts and reparations with Mellon, giving special consideration to the situation in Germany, and Austria.

Both these nations are facing increasingly difficult financial situations, and Germany has asked a reduction in reparations payments, threatening to declare a moratorium otherwise.

However, no definite proposals were made either by Mellon or MacDonald, the United Press was reliably informed.

HOLD WOMAN IN STATE SWINDLE

Suspect in 'Stock Deal' Is Nabbed in Ohio.

By United Press

CLEVELAND, June 18.—Mrs. Mary Hamilton, alias Cosgrove, 37, of Muncie, Ind., was held by Cleveland police today for Indiana authorities who charge she and three companions swindled Vasil Naomil, Ft. Wayne (Ind.) business man, of \$10,000 last week.

The woman, arrested at the home of relatives, was identified by Detective Sergeant Eugene Bouchard of Ft. Wayne, who said she, a woman companion and two men extorted

the money from Naomi in an alleged "fake" stock deal. The victim accompanied the Ft. Wayne officer here to identify the prisoner.

Mrs. Hamilton, while admitting her presence in Ft. Wayne, denied any part in the swindle. Her brother, a suspect in the case, left Cleveland Wednesday, she said.

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"The essential effect of the Ultra Violet is the production of better tobacco and of cigarettes regarded by virtually all smokers who have tested them as milder and with a lesser tendency to cause throat irritation."

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