

A. T. & T. MOVES TO BALK PROBE PUT IN RECORD

Utility Opposed Inquiries With Successes for 10 Years, Is Charge.

BY RUTH FINNEY
Times Special Writer

WASHINGTON, April 1.—For 10 years the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. successfully fought all efforts of public agencies to investigate it. Federal Communications Commission records disclosed today.

It blocked a House investigation proposed by Rep. John O'Connor (D., N. Y.) in 1926. In 1927 and subsequent years it blocked a Senate investigation proposed by Senator Hiram Johnson (R., Cal.).

Again in 1931 it opposed an investigation which Senator James Couzens (R., Mich.) wanted the Interstate Commerce Commission to conduct.

In addition it fought investigations which various Legislatures proposed to make.

Light Thrown on Methods
Letters and memoranda showing the methods by which this opposition was carried on were in the FCC records today, placed there by Counsel Samuel Becker during examination of Carl M. Bracelon, General Counsel of A. T. & T.

When the Johnson resolution was pending before the Senate, the legislation of California, Oregon and Washington had before them proposals that they memorialize Congress in favor of the investigation.

In regard to the California memorial, President Carroll of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co., reported to A. T. & T. headquarters in New York that the assembly committee before which it was pending "is not a very good one, and I doubt if we can stop it there."

He added that if it passed the Assembly it would be sent to a Senate Committee "which is a most excellent committee," adding that he had strong hopes of stopping it there and that "no stone would be left unturned."

Oregon Memorial Defeated
Defeat of the memorial in Oregon caused messages of congratulation to pass between officials of the local and parent companies. Before the Washington memorial was defeated there was correspondence about "some danger that the memorial will be passed without reference to the public utility committee."

When the Couzens resolution failed of adoption, E. S. Wilson of the A. T. & T. reported to Walter Clifford that "Gentlemen Jim from Michigan used every means he could think of to get this passed but it didn't come up for action and just died."

At various times, the record shows, Wisconsin, Michigan and New Mexico Legislatures proposed investigations of their utility commissions, and in each case the telephone companies were opposed. The New Mexico Legislature finally appointed a committee, but its report was not given to the public.

Grilled on Motives
Mr. Becker put into the record a memorandum to the A. T. & T. from Milton Smith, attorney for the Mountain States Power Co., stating that "from confidential sources our people learn the report reposes peacefully in the miscellaneous files." These files would be destroyed at the end of the session, he added.

"Why should the Bell system oppose or favor resolutions calling for the investigation of public utility commissions?" Mr. Becker asked Mr. Bracelon.

"There might be very obvious reasons," Mr. Bracelon replied. "Having something to cover up, some collusion between the telephone company and the commission, but on the other hand when a commission that is functioning efficiently, known to be composed of honorable upright citizens that treat the utilities fairly, is under political attack, the telephone company might properly come to its defense."

BANKERS NAME WARRICK
Local Man Named Vice President of Central States Group

By United Press
EXCELSIOR SPRINGS, Mo., April 1.—C. W. Wattam of Fargo, N. D., today headed the Central States Bankers' Association, members of which closed their convention here yesterday.

Elected with Wattam were Don Warrick of Indianapolis and Will Duncan of Minneapolis, vice presidents. Ray Brundage of Detroit was elected secretary.

Where's George?
—gone to...

SEVILLE TAVERN
"I always seem to be the party of the second part," sighed George, except at SEVILLE when I sit on one side of a platter of good old-fashioned fried chicken for two.

A PLATTER OF FRIED CHICKEN FOR TWO, 75c EACH
7 N. MERIDIAN

It's Best to Be Ready for Anything, Because April Fools Hold Sway Today

Eye Those 'Empty' Boxes and Tempting Wallets With Suspicion.

If your telephone awakened you early today by its incessant ringing, and an irritatingly familiar voice said sweetly, "April Fool," you don't need a calendar to remind you today is All Fools' Day.

The mere sight of April 1 of the calendar stimulates many otherwise normal persons to the unfortunate seasonal vice of practical jokes.

Eddie Brehob (right), operator of a garage at 218 E. New York-st., painfully holds his foot after kicking aside a box which clattered up his front yard. There was a large brick inside the box placed there by a prankster.

There are some who, rather than run the gantlet of practical jokesters, will shut up shop and refuse to answer the telephone or doorbell today.

Others with names that seem to provoke the unholy mirth of today's jesters may even take a trip out of the city and register as Mr. and Mrs. Smith.

It's Origin Is Unknown
No one, not even the encyclopedists, seems to know just how the whole thing started. Apparently the day is an outgrowth of Hindu, Roman and early Christian festivals.

In France the victim of an April Fool joke is called an "April fish," and in Scotland he is dubbed "a gowk" or "cuckoo."

With rare wisdom the men who have charge of such things termed today "All Fools' Day."

Modern science has proved a boon to the jokesters who rely upon the anonymity of the telephone to mask their identities. They would be liquidated if television became widespread.

Strangely enough, the number of murders doesn't pick up any on April 1, and there are few cases on record of harassed victims going berserk in hotel lobbies.

What Not to Do
Fortunately for the tempers of all, April Fools' Day comes just as the tension of winter is beginning to wear off under the mellowing influence of mild temperatures.

A number of things to avoid today are money lying around loose, old hats on the sidewalk and gifts from persons who didn't send you Christmas cards.

Correct procedure today when a debtor pays you that \$5 he has been owing since St. Michelmas is to tear it up laughingly and say, "You can't fool me with those jokes on All Fools' Day."

If it was a real bill, you still have the courage of your own convictions.

SYMPOSIUM ARRANGED ON FARM, CONSUMER
Social Advance Forum to Discuss Problem Tomorrow.

A symposium on "Farm Relief and the Consumer" is to be conducted at 8 tomorrow night at Eugene-st. and Northwestern-av by the Social Advance Forum. Willis Gummel is chairman. This is the second of a series of similar forums conducted in the northwestern section of the city.

Forrest Rogers, secretary of the Commonwealth Clubs of Indiana, is to discuss the new farm relief program and Daniel Stauber of the Consumers' League of Marion County is to talk on consumers' problems.

PLAN ALUMNI DINNER
Cornell Professor Coming to City for Series of Talks.

Prof. R. H. Jordan, Cornell University, is to speak at the Indiana Cornell Alumni Association dinner tomorrow night at the Columbia Club. In addition, he is to speak at Shortridge, Technical and Park High Schools. Harry Onge Johnson, local alumni president, is in charge of arrangements.



Eddie Brehob

BEEKEEPERS HOPE FOR BETTER YEAR

Apiarists of 20 Counties to Discuss Conditions.

Hopeful for a return to a normal production of honey and an improved market this year, beekeepers in 20 counties are to meet this month for discussion sessions.

Unfavorable honey producing conditions have prevailed in most sections of the state for the last two years. The 1935 honey crop was only 50 per cent of normal.

All meetings are to be addressed by James E. Starkey, chief apiary inspector, Division of Entomology.

Schedule of meetings follows:
Friday, Shelbyville; Saturday, Greensburg; April 6, New Albany and North Vernon; April 9, Madison; April 10, Vevay; April 11, Dearborn and Ohio Counties, Aurora; April 13, Rushville; April 14, Connersville; April 15, Richmond; April 16, Liberty; April 17, Brookville; April 18, Osgood; April 20, Bluffton; April 21, Hartford City; April 22, Franklin, and April 23, Tipton.

WITNESS AIDS VERA'S SELF-DEFENSE STORY
Arms Expert Says Gebhardt Apparently Was Rushing Toward Her.

By United Press
NEW YORK, April 1.—A prosecution witness, suddenly recalled by the defense, testified today that Dr. Fritz Gebhardt, German industrialist, apparently was rushing toward Vera Stretz when she fired the first of four fatal shots into him.

The witness was Merton A. Robinson, a ballistics engineer for the Winchester Repeating Arms Co., of New Haven, Conn.

This was one of the most important pieces of evidence adduced by the defense in support of its contention that Miss Stretz fired in self-protection.

Only a few minor witnesses remain to be called. The jury is expected to receive the case tomorrow.

Old Tags: Old Car: \$10
Youthful Gene Harris, 1243 S. Emerson-av., drove blithely down Emerson-av in an auto of 1927 vintage with 1935 license plates and no driver's license last night.

He was fined \$10 today by Municipal Judge Dewey E. Myers.

OFFICIAL WEATHER

United States Weather Bureau

Sunrise 5:29 Sunset 6:09

TEMPERATURE
—April 1, 1936—

Total precipitation since Jan. 1 6.66
Deficiency since Jan. 1 3.19

—Today—

7 a. m. 29 1 p. m. 49
8 a. m. 32 10 a. m. 34
9 a. m. 33 11 a. m. 34
10 a. m. 33 12 Noon 33
11 a. m. 34 1 p. m. 37

BAROMETER
7 a. m. 29.87 1 p. m. 29.68

Precipitation 24 hrs. ending 7 a. m. 0
Total precipitation since Jan. 1 6.66
Deficiency since Jan. 1 3.19

OTHER CITIES AT 7 A. M.

Station	Weather	Bar.	Temp.
Albany, N. Y.	Clear	29.66	28
Albany, N. Y.	Clear	29.66	28
Bismarck, N. D.	Snow	29.24	8
Boston	PCldy	30.06	36
Chicago	Snow	30.00	28
Cincinnati	Cloudy	29.86	38
Denver	PCldy	29.84	12
Dodge City, Kas.	Cloudy	29.84	24
Helena, Mont.	PCldy	30.38	10
Jacksonville	Clear	29.84	56
Kansas City, Mo.	Snow	29.10	48
Little Rock, Ark.	Cloudy	29.84	56
Los Angeles	Clear	29.88	76
Miami Fla.	Clear	29.88	76
Minneapolis	Cloudy	29.72	72
Mobile, Ala.	Cloudy	29.72	72
New Orleans	Cloudy	29.72	72
New York	Cloudy	29.72	72
Oklahoma City	Cloudy	29.72	72
Oklahoma City	Cloudy	29.72	72
Pittsburgh	Cloudy	29.72	72
Portland, Ore.	Snow	29.60	70
San Antonio, Tex.	Cloudy	29.72	72
San Francisco	Cloudy	29.72	72
St. Louis	Cloudy	29.72	72
Tampa, Fla.	Cloudy	29.72	72
Washington, D. C.	Cloudy	29.72	72

SECOND NEGRO HIGH SCHOOL IN CITY DEMANDED

Crispus Attacks Crowded, Transportation a Burden; Board Told.

The Board of School Commissioners today has under consideration petitions for a new Negro high school on the East Side.

Led by the Rev. S. S. Reed, rector of the Greater St. John's Baptist Church, 1611 E. 17th-st., a delegation of 45 Negroes appeared with the petitions last night at the board meeting, and complained of crowded conditions in the Northwest Side Crispus Attucks High School for Negro pupils.

They also complained that the cost of transporting pupils for the far east side was excessive, and in some cases, prohibitive. There were 45 in the delegation.

As their spokesman, Mr. Reed asked that either a new high school be constructed, or that School 26 be remodeled into one. He said he represented the Federation of Community Civic Clubs, the Ministers Alliance and the Parent-Teacher Associations of Schools 26, 37 and 56.

Communist Backs Plea
Sol Larks, white representative of the Communist Party of Indiana, 66 W. New York-st., supported Mr. Reed's proposal and said he thought that Negroes should be allowed to attend all high schools and that Negro teachers should be allowed to teach in all high schools.

The present system sets up unnatural barriers, he said. He advocated the teaching of Negro history and the enlarging of NYA.

Carl Wilde, president of the board, asked him if the Negro delegation had known beforehand that he was to appear in support of their petitions and he said no.

Florence Adams, Negro, 2405 Paris-av., representing the Marion County Christian Youth Council, endorsed the high school petition and asked that a study of Negro history be included in the school curriculum. He urged the support of the board for the American Youth Act, now pending before Congress.

Finds Money Plaintiff
William A. Haddox, representing the East Side Civic League, Philander Odium, parent of school pupils, and the Rev. George C. Crocker, minister at the Negro Orphans' Home, all Negroes, spoke in favor of the new high school.

"The world is full of money," Mr. Crocker said, "for projects that amount to nothing."

Mr. Wilde said that the petitions and other suggestions would be given careful consideration.

Mr. Wilde expressed the board's gratification at the report that the State Tax Board had approved an additional appropriation of \$120,000 for the construction of additions and remodeling at Schools No. 21 and 44 on March 23.

Greenlee Strikes Again; McHale, Simmons, Coy Are His Main Targets

G. O. P. Is Gleeful Over Democratic Dissension; Await Next Speech.

(Continued From Page One)

taches asked, "Who'll come next? Does he figure on jumping on the Republican Party?"

Mr. Greenlee, former secretary to Gov. McNutt, in his speech in East Chicago last night, said: "McHale-ism stands for special privilege in permitting Virgil 'Skit's' Simmons to spend a two-week vacation in Florida with a state automobile and a chauffeur at the expense of the taxpayers of our state. The warrants which paid the expense of this Florida jaunt are on file in the office of the Auditor of State."

Expands Coy Assault
"McHale-ism stands for expenditures of fish and game funds in the Department of Conservation for the purchase of 746.12 acres of land in Wells County, Simmons' home county. . . . McHale-ism stands for the expenditure of these funds totalling \$23,710.39 paid in by sportsmen of the state for fishing and hunting licenses, not to buy land but to propagate fish and wild game in Indiana."

He broadened his verbal assault on Wayne Coy, WPA administrator, by charging "politics" in the states under Mr. Coy's control in the Works Progress division.

"I say let's have no back room politics in our party. Let the majority of the Democratic Party make up its own mind who it wants for Governor. I will be the first to abide by the decision," Mr. Greenlee concluded.

COOLIDGE AID IN CITY FOR TALK
Former Secretary Hopes to Take Active Part in State Campaign.

(Continued From Page One)

didn't know we would nominate Hughes in 1916 and that's precisely the same situation we face today," he continued.

"Does that mean a dark horse may be the Republican candidate?" he was asked.

"It may be a dark horse, or it may be one of the number of candidates now in the field," he said, adding:

"I plan to take an active part in this year's campaign in Indiana, as I have always in the past, in an effort to return the state to the Republican column."

Refutes Democratic Claims
Silence greeted the query as to whether he is one of the prominent oratorical guns to be turned loose in Indiana to insure a Republican victory.

"I'll have something to say about the state Democratic administration in Terre Haute, when I'll speak in a few days," he said between latherings.

The Democratic notion that young people form the bulwark of their party is a fallacy. The greater burden of cost of the present Democratic Administration will settle on posterity when it should be paid by the present generation," he declared.

Silent on Own Candidacy
The razor heared the Adam's-apple as questions of "Who'll be the Republican presidential nominee?" and "What is the Landon and Borah strength in the Midwest?" received a guttural "I can't say, or I wouldn't care to discuss that."

"Are you a candidate for any office?" he was asked.

"I don't care to be quoted on that," he said.

Tonight at 6 Mr. Sanders is to address a dinner of the Indianapolis Bar Association at the Columbia Club.

STATE APPEAL ON CREDIT LAW IN HIGH COURT

Lutz in Washington Today to Defend Statute on Instalment Sales.

BY DANIEL M. KIDNEY
Times Special Writer

WASHINGTON, April 1.—The right of a state to regulate the credit charges on instalment sales of merchandise was to be defended before the Supreme Court this afternoon by Indiana officials.

Last year Indiana's Legislature decided to put instalment credit under control of the petty loan division of the state's department of financial institutions.

It empowered the department to lay down rules regarding rates and methods to be used in extending instalment credit. One of the rules was to require that intelligent information be given the buyer on the price difference between a cash sale, ordinary credit and instalment charges.

All injunction was obtained in Federal Court, Indianapolis. The three-judge court ruled in favor of General Motors Acceptance Corp. and the McHenry Chevrolet Co., which sued the state jointly.

Acting for Gov. McNutt, Atty. Gen. Philip Lutz took an appeal directly to the Supreme Court.

Today Mr. Lutz and his assistants were ready to defend the legislation as within the powers of the state under the Constitution.

Lutz Explains Law's Purpose
"This is the first act of that nature in the entire United States," Mr. Lutz said. "Big business, engaged in instalment selling, always has contended that it was not violating usury laws because its charges were for credit extension and not interest rates."

"Surely the state has a right to regulate any business which may become inherently dangerous to society."

Big Savings Claimed
Officials of the State Department of Financial Institutions estimated today that \$500,000 has been saved small borrowers in interest through departmental regulations since Aug. 1, 1934.

The saving, departmental officials say, was made by limiting interest collected on small loans. Prior to 1934, they said, small loans ran for several years and interest tripled the amount of the loan.

Under rates now in effect the legal maximum interest on a \$300 loan for three years would be \$166, department officials say. If the interest is collected within the three-year period no further interest is due.

Police Hunt Wire Thief
Police searched today for a thief who stole two coils of copper wire, valued at \$30, from the rear of 4919 University-av last night. Leslie Casler, the owner, reported the theft to police.

REGISTRATION IS URGED
Branch Offices to Be Open Tomorrow Are Listed

Branch offices open from 10 a. m. to 10 p. m. for voters' registration tomorrow are as follows:

Wm. F. Creagh Pharmacy, 939 N. Pennsylvania-st.
Fisher's Pharmacy, 54th-st. and College-av.
Carter, The Druggist, 30th-st. and Cornell-av.
Hamaker Pharmacy, 30th and Talbot-sts.
Bodau Pharmacy, 1802 Boulevard-pl.
Kennedy Drug Store, 4009 Shelby-st.
Earl's Pharmacy, Carroll-av. at Troy-av.
Potter Cutrate Drugs, 2512 S. Eastern-av.
James L. Simmons, Druggist, East and Prospect-sts.



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Tailored in the "Wearington" manner—Priced where it's a pleasure.
\$25

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1.65 Mail Orders Filled 3 for 4.75

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Royal blue
Copenhagen blue
Dark green
White
Steel grey
Maroon
Tan
Chocolate
Canary