

GOVERNMENT HAS A GREAT PROBLEM UP FOR DECISION

Present Administration Must
Deal With Railway Rate
Making, Which Is Agitating
Business Centers.

RULING IS EXPECTED
WITHIN FEW MONTHS

Controversy, Which Started in
Pacific States Over a Year
Ago Has Spread Over En-
tire Republic.

BY JONATHAN WINFIELD.

Washington, Sept. 22.—One of the greatest problems with which the present administration has had to deal is the rate making question now agitating every industrial and financial center of the United States. Millions of dollars are at stake and the great race between the people and corporate railway interests of the country is on. Whether the people will be successful or these alleged predatory interests, will be determined within a short space of a few months. The deciding judge is the interstate commerce commission composed of Martin A. Knapp, chairman, and associate commissioners, Judson C. Clement of Georgia, Charles A. Prouty of Vermont, Francis M. Cockrell of Missouri, Franklin M. Lane of California, Edgar F. Clark of Iowa, and James S. Harlan of Illinois.

The controversy started in different sections of the United States more than a year and a half ago when the Pacific railroads notified the interstate commission that they were about to increase their freight traffic rates. From that time until June 25 railroads all over the country to meet additional expenses sought to bolster up their dividends by increasing rates anywhere from one per cent to fifty per cent.

Thousands of Protests.

Protests and complaints by the thousands were filed with the commission. Attorney General Wickersham was interviewed by committees of various chambers of commerce and representatives of shipping concerns until finally the matter was taken up and brought to a partially successful conclusion by President Taft, who stayed off the evil day by suggesting a complete hearing of the subject.

Those hearings are now being held in various railway sections of the country, and contemplate the complete investigation in the real need of an increase of rates as well as the valuation of the roads. The new railroad law recently passed by congress has authorized the commission to handle the various phases of the rate making question and in consequence it will deal with matters of more vital interests to the country as measured by a monetary standard, than ever has been involved in any action to which the government was a party.

Special agents have been dispatched to the headquarters of the various railroads. These examiners who will be in effect masters of chancery, will demand and receive information touching upon statistical affairs of the roads. This information will be compiled and laid before the commission. The legal representatives of the roads will be granted hearings later before the full commission at Washington. For the purpose of expediting the work, the cases have been grouped as much as possible and the commission when it will finally determine upon

Scene From "Charlotte Temple"— Imperial Stock At Gennett This Week



the rates to be put into effect, will take territory into consideration rather than individual lines of railroad.

Despite the magnitude of the work suddenly imposed upon the commission during the past summer, it has managed to meet all demands.

Were Several Hearings.

So far during the summer, hearings have been held at Chicago, New York, Kansas City and Cincinnati. Other hearings are scheduled for places in the southern states, in New England and along the entire Pacific coast.

The commission, while never having gone on record as to just when these questions will be finally settled have made its position clear by stating unofficially that in the coming early spring a decision in most of the cases would be reached.

According to gossip among railway officials in the city as well as among the legal practitioners the real fight will just about begin at that time. The plan of fighting which the railroads have mapped out contemplate taking the cases to the supreme court of the United States for final decision, should the interstate commerce commission decide against the general advance in freight rates. Should this be true there is absolutely no telling when the whole question will be settled as the delays incident to legal procedure would string the cases out before the courts for years.

However, the preliminaries have been won for the people by the diplomatic stroke of the president. By executive action millions of dollars already have been saved to the shippers of the country and hundreds of thousands of dollars have remained in the pockets of the people by the postponement of the contemplated increase in freight rates on commodities and in commutation fares.

U. S. Puts One Over.

Uncle Sam has put one over the cement manufacturers of the country especially on the western reclamation projects. Recent advertisements for prices on cement to be used on the Roosevelt dam, on the Salt River, Arizona, and other water way works resulted in a flood of bids. The lowest obtainable by the interior department was a bid of \$4.89 a barrel. After consultation with engineers at work on the projects, department officials came to the conclusion that this price was abnormally excessive, notwithstanding the inaccessibility of the sites upon which most of the dams

are constructed. After repeated efforts to secure satisfactory proposals for furnishing cement in large quantities the reclamation service on authority of the secretary of the interior erected a cement making plant.

Up until the present time the mill has manufactured 337,000 barrels of cement at a uniform cost of approximately \$2.90 a barrel. In this figure is included the cost of construction and maintenance of the plant and all expenditures incident to the manufacturing of cement.

By making its own cement the government was able to realize a large profit, the benefit of which will accrue to the land owners within the limits of the various projects, by reducing the cost of obtaining a water supply in irrigating their farms.

During the past year, according to estimates of the reclamation service the government has effected a saving in the field of from \$5,000 to \$20,000 in labor, time and machinery through the introduction of new methods and a general shaking up of the manner of conducting business.

From recent reports received at the interior department, work on the various reclamation projects have been progressing favorably.

This Is My 53rd Birthday

JOHN E. DODSON.

John E. Dodson, the well known comedian, was born in London, Sept. 25, 1857. He was educated for the bar but found theatricals more to his liking than the study of law. He made his first professional appearance in Manchester in 1877, playing a small part in the company of the late J. Lawrence Toole. A few years later he began his career up of comedian in Dublin. He supported Joseph Jefferson and J. K. Emmett when they were touring in England. In 1889 he joined the company of Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, and with them he made his first visit to America. He remained with the Kendals five years and during that time his reputation as a character comedian became established. In 1895 Mr. Dodson became principal comedian of the famous Empire stock company in New York. Several years later he created the part of Simonides in "Ben Hur" at the Drury Lane Theater, London, and subsequently played it for long runs in America. He took part in the all-star revival of "The Two Orphans" in 1904 and in the all-star production of "She Stoops to Conquer" several years later.

King George Trying Very Hard To Win Affection Of the Irish

(Special Cable from the International News Service.)

BY HERBERT TEMPLE.

London, Sept. 24.—King George seems determined to win the love of his Irish subjects. It is a well known secret that he personally favors granting home rule to the Emerald Isle, although he will of course never allow himself to say so publicly, and now he has made it known that immediately after the coronation next year he will at the end of the London season pay an official state visit to Ireland accompanied by the Queen, the Prince of Wales and Princess Mary.

This visit is expected to extend over a week, and a round of festivities will take place at Dublin castle, including a Court, a State Ball, a Levee, and probably a review of the troops in Phoenix Park. It is too early yet, of course for any definite arrangements to be made but the king has discussed the matter in an informal manner with those about him, and it is said to be looking forward to a visit to the Sister Isle with keen anticipation.

The King has considerable acquaintance in Ireland and has many pleasant recollections of his visits there. It is hoped that he may be able to find time to visit Belfast and one or two of the other towns before he reembarks upon his Royal Yacht, but how all this will be possible remains to be seen.

It is not generally known that King George almost purchased a residence in the north of Ireland a few years ago, and the true story why he did not do so has never previously been told. The residence in question was one that particularly appealed to him. The estate was expensive and possessed excellent fishing and shooting rights, while the scenery in the neighborhood was among the best pictures that it would be possible to imagine.

Bothe the Prince and Princess of Wales (as their Majesties then were) fell in love with the place and negotiations for its purchase were well advanced when the matter came to the ears of the leaders of the Irish party. A protest was at once entered with the Prime Minister of the day, and a significant hint was given that if the Heir-Apparent took up his residence in Ireland, matters would be made pretty awkward for the Government, in the House of Commons. The premier was consequently in something of a dilemma, and sought an audience of the late King.

King Edward listened to what his chief political adviser had to say, and then consulted the Prince of Wales, and pointed out the objections that had been raised, and the awkward position in which the Viceroy would be placed every time the Prince or the Princess appeared in Dublin. King Edward further added reasons of his own for opposing this plan, chiefly on account of the distance from London that his heir would be when residing upon his Irish estate. King George at last agreed to forego his project, and to accept Frogmore as his country home.

The King, however, is by no means the only member of the royal family who has desired to own a house in Ireland, since the Duke of Connaught had a similar idea several years ago; while the late Duke of Clarence and Avondale also expressed a desire on more than one occasion to reside in Ireland for a portion of the year.

Those who are behind the scenes are immensely amused at the fierce fight that is going on at the present time between Cardiff, Carnarvon, and other Welsh towns, as to which shall have the honor of witnessing the formal investiture of the Prince of Wales with his time honored title. As a matter of fact the king and queen have definitely made up their minds that there shall be no formal investiture of their eldest son at all, and that he shall not take any part in public functions of any description until after he is eighteen. At the

same time, the king is very keenly interested in the discussion that is now taking place for the valuable sidelights that it sheds on Welsh history and is following the claims of the rival towns most carefully. He is extremely cautious however, not to express any opinion in favor of any one place, though he has been directly invited to do so by those who are at liberty to approach him upon terms of intimacy.

The reigning chief of Quittah in Africa—I apologize for having forgotten the gentleman's name—is apparently going to run his little kingdom on up-to-date lines. The first essential to the proper observance of court ceremonial—the potentate's crown—has just been dispatched by the mail by West Africa. In its class, it is quite an imposing little thing and it has the additional merit of having been designed by the chief himself. The actual work has, of course, been done in London.

The crown is formed of a cap of black silk velvet, 14 inches high, trimmed with gold braid and bullion gold lace. Four bands of gold braid represent the usual metal arches and in the center a plum and tassel of heavy bullion lace is fixed. The front is adorned with an eight pointed star within a circle. Perhaps the most interesting thing about the transaction is the chief's effort to prevent "copying" on the part of any other native king. They are very jealous of these things in Africa. In the letter ordering the crown the chief, who makes a brave show of writing English, asked that the design might be registered "so as it kind may not be sell anywhere in Afrika."

Sir Oliver Lodge has come out as a warm defender of the Old Testament. Addressing a large meeting of admirers the other day he said that in connection with the Old Testament many difficulties were felt and promoted a quite unnecessary scepticism.

There was a truth of science and a truth of literature. They were not in a conflict, but were parts of a larger whole. Literature and posterity need not be historical true, but they might be true to human nature. Science textbooks would be superseded but great poems were permanently true.

In this spirit the Old Testament was to be interpreted and understood. A great portion of it was manifestly inspired. Inspiration was a reality, though its definition was at present vague, but whatever it meant it did not mean infallibility. In the Old Testament we had the history and literature of the race from which the Messiah was to be born. Some of their conceptions of the Deity in the early ages were no doubt childish, but they were childish in the good sense.

The way to understand these ancient books was to place ourselves in imagination in the time in which they were composed. The whole parable of the creation to his mind was quite consistent with evolutionary science. In the Hebrew literature there was a gradual revelation—a revelation as rapid as the race could receive it. If we were to apprehend God at all it must be through some anthropological idea. There must be some form of incarnation.

At Local Theaters

At the Murray.
The equine wonders will be at the Murray this week. This troupe consists of twelve ponies, the trick mule and the educated horse, "Diamond," the trotting bred horse, is educated to perform tricks that no other dumb brute has been able to accomplish. His contortion act is marvelous. Ruby the wonderful rocking chair mule, will be a feature that will delight all. These animals walk up and down

stairs and display intelligence that is surprising.
The Colonials will introduce music, instrumental of various kinds and the act is classed as one of the most beautiful in vaudeville. Eleanor Otis and Co. in the sketch "Merry Merrys" is another feature that will add variety to this bill. With the motion pictures and other big features the bill should be a popular one this week as variety in different lines must appeal to the patrons of the Murray.

Imperial Stock Company.

Commencing with a matinee on Monday the Imperial Stock Co. will play a week's engagement at the Gennett theater giving the usual popular daily ten cent matinees. Their list of plays is a large one and runs from the merry farce "Hello Bill," with which they will open their engagement Monday afternoon to the more exciting dramas which will be put on later in the week. On Monday evening "A Daughter of the South" will be the bill when ladies will be admitted free under the usual conditions. One of the most delightful plays in their repertoire is Charlotte Temple.

"The Girl From Rector's." "The Girl From Rector's" which had a run of over three hundred nights at Weber's Music Hall, New York, will be seen in this city, at the Gennett in the near future. Paul M. Potter is the author of the work, and despite the fact his past has been identified with plays of a serious nature, he hit upon a vein of humor in "The Girl" which astonished even his most ardent admirers. It is a long step from a play of the nature of "Tribby" of which he was the author to an offering like that of his latest creation. The New York critics declare that he has made a name for himself in the field of comedy which will survive his former reputation. There isn't dull line throughout "The Girl from Rector's" and not a situation that cannot be understood and appreciated by any one. The success of the piece may be judged from the fact that its earning capacity at Weber's was many times greater than that of the same house when the Weber & Fields' offerings there were the sole topic of New York's theater going public.

PALLADIUM WANT ADS PAY.

FREE! FREE! Watch the Want Ad Columns

EVERY NIGHT NEXT WEEK.

8 Box Seats Given Away Monday Night and 4 Seats
Every Night the balance of the week to the
John A. Himmelein's Imperial Stock Co.

—AT THE—

Gennett Theater

If you find your name and address in the Want Ad Columns asking you to call at the Palladium office you will be given 2 tickets to that night performance. These names are selected from the city directory, so you may be the next. Watch and read every night.

GENNETT

ONE WEEK STARTING MON.
MAT., SEP. 26

JOHN A. HIMMELEIN'S IMPERIAL STOCK CO.

New Plays Daily Matinees 10c New People
..Opening Plays..

Monday Matinee Monday Night
Hello, Bill! A Daughter of the South

LADIES' FREE MONDAY NIGHT UNDER
USUAL CONDITIONS

Prices: 10, 20, 30

MAMMOTH HIPPODROME!

THE BIG FEATURE OF The Fall Festival and Centennial Celebration!

Opens on the night of October 3 and lasts all week. \$2,000.00 is being spent in acts alone for this Hippodrome. In connection with the Hippodrome there will be a Mid-Way along which will be numerous exhibits of local manufacturers and dealers, as well as shows and refreshment stands of all sorts.

A large dancing pavilion at the Hippodrome Grounds will furnish dancing during the entire week. The admission to the Hippodrome Grounds is absolutely free. To the Hippodrome itself is 25 cents.

The Hippodrome acts include: The death defying Chevalo, who loops the loop and leaps the gap all in one act; Leon Morris, dog, pony and monkey show, with the diving monkey; The Warricks in the trick club house act; Signor Coshell in a wire act; The Arnessen family, head and hand balancing; The Three Raschette Brothers in a barrel act; The Haas Brothers in a bar act.

There will be many amusing clowns. A special feature of the Hippodrome will be the Music, which will be furnished by the Maxwell-Briscoe Band of New Castle, and the Richmond City Band of 30 pieces. Jean Moereman, leader of the Maxwell-Briscoe Band, was formerly a soloist with Sousa, and was a member of the famous Marine Band at Washington, D. C. He will furnish cornet solos at the Hippodrome. The Hippodrome Grounds will be brilliantly illuminated.

Monday Will be Richmond Day at the Hippodrome

This will be the first day of this mammoth Hippodrome and it will be the day for Richmond people to participate. The Richmond Maennerchor will give a concert before and after each performance. Be there Monday night and make the first day a big day to continue throughout the week.

Other Amusements During The Fall Festival

October 5-6-7

Modern Woodmen Celebration, Agricultural Parade, Industrial Parade, Centennial Celebration, Including Big Historical Parade, Three Big Bands, Beautiful Street Decorations, Dancing. Invite Your Friends And Make This Week The Biggest In The History Of Wayne County