

TURN DOWN BELL PHONE PLEA FOR RATE INCREASE

Majority Ruling of Railway
Commission Decides Against
Company.

NO EMERGENCY FOUND

Chairman Carvell, Dissenting,
Says Readjustment of Rates
Necessary.

OTTAWA, Feb. 9.—(By Canadian Press).—By a majority ruling the railway commission this afternoon rejected the application of the Bell Telephone Company for an increase in rates. Chief Commissioner Carvell and Commissioner McLean dissented from the majority ruling.

The majority ruling was given by Commissioner Boyce and concurred in by Commissioners Nantel and Lawrence. Mr. Boyce, in summing up his judgment, holds:

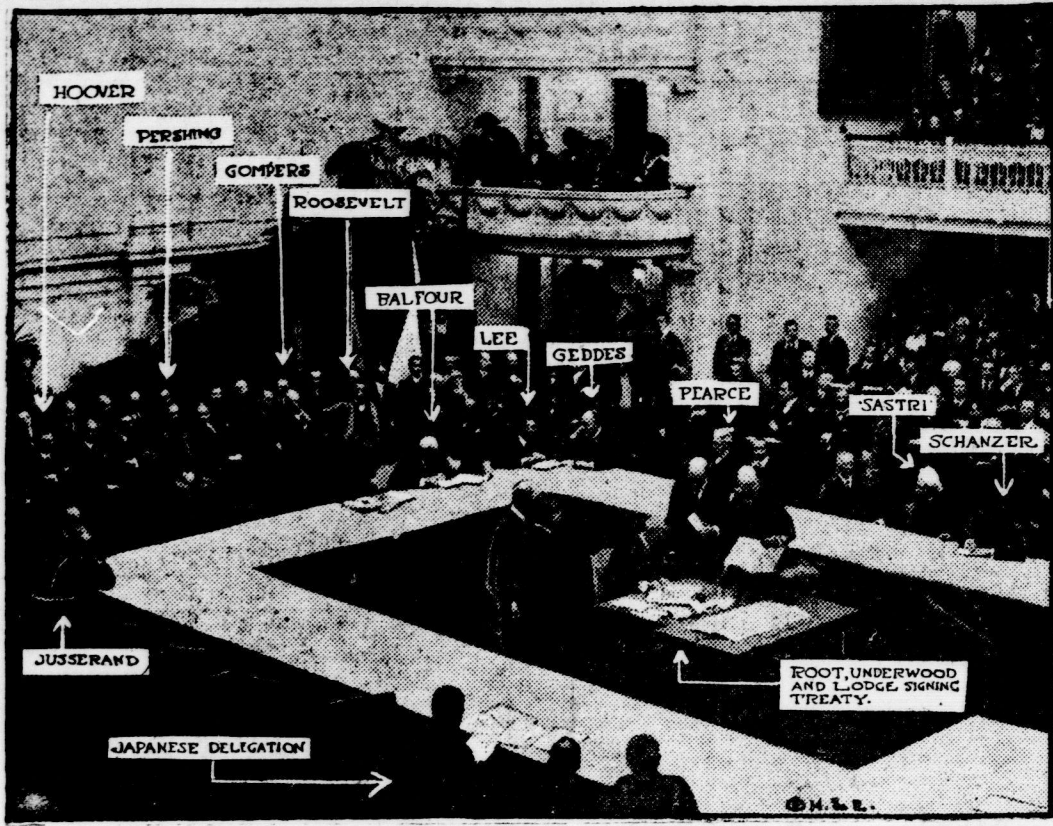
"That the company's estimate of \$1,357,500 as its additional requirements is erroneous and excessive; that the maximum amount required to implement the requisite revenue to meet all the company's requirements was \$600,393, and that, in my opinion, had economies effecting in five months decreases of \$263,691.93 in operating expenses been earlier introduced, as was possible, the requirements would substantially have been met.

"That it does not appear that the company made extensive, thorough and adequate effort in the direction of obtaining new money required to finance its requirements; that in so far as the net earnings at that time fell short of requirements, they could have been substantially implemented by more speedily inaugurating the economies in operating costs subsequently enforced as suggested by the financial brokers, to whom the company made application for such new money. That with the increased operating revenues and decreased operating expenses shown in the company's statement, and with the substantial and adequate reserves it had accumulated, and with the economies subsequently demonstrated as possible, the company's credit was, and is, ample for the purpose of financing temporary financial requirements to cover extensions and new business, and there was for the reasons shown, and upon the facts, no justification for the abandonment of the effort to obtain the new money required, nor for the application to this board at this time, upon the basis of a tariff quite out of line with the company's traffic and unsuitable thereto, for permission to tax its present subscribers for the money required to finance the cost of such extensions of its business.

No Reason For Increase.

"In addition to above reasons, in so far as they are applicable to the

Delegates of Nine Nations Signing Far Eastern Treaty!



WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The general Far Eastern treaty between the United States, Great Britain, Japan, France, Italy, China, Belgium, Portugal and the

Netherlands, binds each of them to respect China's integrity. Under its terms the open-door policy is to be applied in detail, and every opportunity is to be given the Chinese people to develop a stable government.

Third reason stated in the application, and as regards the financing of the requisite money to provide for the alleged pending 16,000 applications for telephones, no evidence has been given, and no reason given, to justify the conclusion that this board must increase rates of present subscribers to enable the company to provide money necessary for expansions of business, and in the absence of the acceptance of such a principle, which has not been asserted during 37 years of the enormous expansion, no ground for relief on this account is shown.

"There being no evidence to justify the tariff of rates now offered for approval, but on the contrary, such tariff being admittedly out of line, discriminatory and objectionable for the several reasons shown, approval of the tariff submitted must be refused.

"The functions of the board do not extend to initiating tariffs, and, if they did, there is no evidence, data or material before the board upon which a suitable tariff could be constructed.

"No emergency condition exists, and no grounds are shown which would justify any temporary or emergency increase in rates."

Commissioner Boyce, in his judgment, says that the company submitted for approval a general tariff of rates for exchange service involving substantial increases in telephone tolls, extending over the whole of the exchange areas. The increases varied from 2 to 95 per cent, averaging approximately 20 per cent. He finds that the company of establishing the fairness, justice and reasonableness of such a tariff rests with the com-

pany, and that beyond the fact that it is stated on behalf of the company that it would be able to derive additional money from subscribers to meet the "alleged deficit in operation, I am unable to find in the evidence any specific or cogent reasons for the particular tariff changes proposed."

The Dissenting Opinion.

Chief Commissioner Carvell, in dissenting from the majority award, says that the board has on many occasions laid down the principle that, as a public utility corporation can only charge tolls or rates as the board allows, the board should give sufficient rates to produce certain results.

"It seems to me," said the chief commissioner, "that I am safe in concluding that the company at the end of twelve months, under the present tariff, will be at least \$600,000 short of the amount required under the principles laid down in the former judgment."

Mr. Carvell reviewed the amounts paid out in wages and salaries, and states that in his opinion they are not excessive. He states that between reducing wages and increasing rates he would prefer the latter, and thinks that an order should be issued increasing the rates sufficiently to produce an additional \$600,000 a year.

Would Readjust Rates.

Mr. Carvell says: "In view of the decision of the majority of the board, it is unnecessary to enter into any statement as to how I would raise this particular amount of money, excepting to state that there are a number of places in the territory covered by the Bell Telephone Company in which the rates are abnor-

mally low, based upon a very well recognized standard of telephone rate-making, and I think these should be brought up to somewhere near the position they should occupy. In other words, I would readjust the rates rather than give a percentage increase."

Assistant Chief Commissioner McLean, who does not concur in the majority judgment, in his ruling treats the company's application as an emergency one. McLean goes exhaustively into the operation of the company and its financial standing. In concluding he says:

"In view of the finding of the majority I will not deem it necessary to express any opinion as to the form or basis of the proposed tariff revision filed by the company on this application."

The application of the company set forth that the rates authorized did not produce sufficient revenue to meet dividend requirements; that it was found impossible to obtain new money to extend facilities owing to the inadequate earnings; that it had 16,000 applications for service which it could not supply owing to the general shortage of equipment, and that unless large capital outlays were immediately arranged for the shortage of equipment would become so serious that the public would be seriously handicapped through inability to obtain telephone service.

CRAIG GETS \$16,000.

BELFAST, Ireland.—The Northern Ireland Parliament has fixed the salary of the Ulster premier, Sir James Craig, at \$16,000 annually. Each minister will get \$10,000.

CORONATION OF POPE PIUS XI TO BE MODIFIED

Cold Wave Will Prevent Outdoor Ceremony As On Past Occasions.

DEMAND FOR TICKETS

ROME, Feb. 9.—The cold wave, the severest in years, accompanied by a considerable fall of snow, has forced a modification of the coronation ceremonies Sunday, when Pope Pius XI. will receive the triple crown.

It will necessitate the passing of the pontiff into the Basilica without the customary ceremonial of the facade before the huge bronze door, when Cardinal Merry del Val, as archpriest of St. Peter's, makes formal obeisance to the pope. Thousands will thus be prevented from seeing the pope passing in procession.

Instead, his holiness will enter immediately into the chapel of the Holy Sacrament, where the late Pope Benedict lay in state. There Cardinal Merry del Val will render homage to the pontiff, who descends from the papal chair, borne on the shoulders of the red-cloaked ushers.

Change Ordered By Pope.

The pope personally ordered this modification, because of the serious consequences on account of the cold which might follow if the pontifical procession took place in the open facade.

It was announced in some quarters that his holiness, after being crowned, intended to appear in the facade of St. Peter's wearing the tiara, the symbol of pontifical sovereignty, and bestow the benediction on those unable to gain admission.

He would thus break the custom followed by his three immediate predecessors who, after the split with the Italian government, never appeared on the facade. This rumored innovation is authoritatively denied by the Vatican.

The personal effects of the pope have been taken to the apartment occupied by him during the conclave. He is still residing there before establishing his official residence on the second floor of the Vatican. His private apartment, located on the third floor, will be occupied as soon as it can be placed in order. The bedroom of the pontiff is at present located in the throne room. His brother, sister and nephew left Milan last night, and are expected to reach here Thursday as the coronation.

Many Want Tickets.

His holiness received several members of the sacred college and also a number of diplomatic representatives. There is a crowd constantly within the Vatican, all seeking tickets for the coronation. Long lines wait for hours at the major domo's offices in order to submit their request.

The great learning of Pius XI. is

constantly commented on by the prelates. Monsignor Talamoni, now dead, who was one of his preceptors, is recalled in the Vatican as having said, when he saw how he had risen to the nunciature in Poland and his wonderful success there: "Achille Ratti was an extraordinary scholar; he was an example and stimulus to all. I myself was forced to intensify myself in order to present myself prepared before such a profound student."



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6 dozen Men's Fine Wool and V-Neck Sweaters, good colors. Reg. \$3.75... **\$1.98**

30 dozen Men's Fine Silk and Wool Socks, in grey, brown and wine shades. Seconds, of \$1.50 grade... **50c**

20 dozen Sample Suspenders, President, Tex End and other like qualities. Reg. 75c and \$1.00... **50c**

Stanfield's Heavy Ribbed Wool Shirts and Drawers, most sizes. Last year \$2.25, for... **\$1.00**

Men's Sample Combination Underwear, Penman and other makes. Worth to \$4, for... **\$1.98**

New Russian Cord Fine Shirts, with soft collar to match, the best wearing shirt you can buy **\$3.95**

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White Swiss Organ-dies. Per yard **85c, \$1.00, \$1.25**

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Distinctive Suits \$18.50

You would hardly hope to find a well-made suit of good quality at this moderate price. But this suit passes the test of good lines, carefully-fitted shoulders, braid and button trimmed; shown in navy blue and black, at **\$18.50**

LADIES' VELOUR COATS. **\$12.50 and \$18.00**

SPORT SKIRTS. The department has priced them at **\$10.00 and \$12.50**

25 BOTANY SERGE DRESSES, embroidery and button trimmed, in 16, 18 and 20 years. Price **\$9.95**

Hosiery Specials

Ladies' Heather Hose, fine yarns, best finish, in brown mixtures; sizes 9, 9½ and 10. Per pair **\$1.25**

Ladies' Black Cashmere Hose, in O. S. size, double heel. Per pair **89c**

Children's Heather Hose, in shades of brown, light and dark green, in 1-1 rib; sizes 6½ to 10. Price **75c and \$1.00**

Children's Black Cotton Hose, double heel and toe, 1-1 rib **5 pairs for \$1.00**



Bordered Skirtings, fine all-wool, a mediumweight for pleating, 50 inches wide, shades of navy, bordered in sand and grey. Special, yard **\$3.25**

Navy Venetian Cloth, all-wool quality, soft perle finish, 52 inches wide. Just the material for nice spring suit or coat. Special, yard **\$2.50**

Serges, all-wool quality, fine weave, heavyweight, excellent serge for good, serviceable school wear, full 40 inches wide, shades of navy, black, copen, grey, nigger, red. Special, yard **75c**

Princess Silks for ladies' underwear, fine silk and cotton material, washes perfectly, and gives best of wear, 38 inches wide, shades of pink, white, mauve, copen, sand, grey and black. Special, yard **75c**

Paisley Satins and Crepes for dress and waist trimmings, in neat designs, full 36 inches wide, shades of blue, green, rose and brown. Special, yard **\$4.00 and \$4.50**

Radium Lace for over-dresses, neat floral patterns, good all-silk, 36 inches wide, shades of navy, black, rose and brown. Special, yard **\$3.75**

Paillette Silks, good quality that gives satisfaction in wear, 36 inches wide, shades of navy, black, grey, taupe, jade, canna, capri, Russian. Special, yard **\$1.75**

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