RAILWAYS MAY ACCEPT DECISION

LIKELY TO ABANDON FIGHT IN RATE CASE

It Is Believed in New York Companies Will Retrench to Meet Conditions

(Times Leased Wire.)

New York, Feb. 25.—Belief is growing here to-day that the railroads will make no protest against the decision of the interstate commerce commission in refusing to allow advances in rates, and that they will retrench to meet current obligations.

The chief public concern over the situation is whether there will be a reduction of wages to the level prevailing before the recent concessions to employees. In this connection the statement of George F. Baer, president of the Reading railroad, that the working man might suffer from the refusal to allow the rate raise, is causing speculation. Referring to Baer's statement, a prominent labor leader said to-day:

"There will be no reduction in wages now. The eastern and most of the western systems have signed up with the various brotherhoods for a term of years. If the railroads violate their contracts, which is unlikely, we will have the biggest railroad strike in history."

The impression among financial men here is that everything will soon be adjusted; that the roads will carry out their contemplated improvements and that no fight for higher rates will be made.

The executive officers and chief counsel of the railroads in the eastern classification territory will meet here on Monday and determine what action to take on the interstate commerce commission's rate decision.

Discussing the interstate commerce commission's rate decision, Stuyvesant Fish to-day declared that the railroads of the country had reached a point where their operating expenses were no longer out of proportion to their gross revenue. The rate decision, he said, betters the plight of the real owners of railroad shares held for investment by stopping the claims of labor for higher wages and by ending the claims of the shippers for anything approaching a general reduction in rates. He endorsed the commission's decision that the existing railroad rates are just.

Through statements by prominent railroad attorneys it developed here to-day that the principal business of the conference of railroad presidents here on Monday will be to decide whether to test the constitutionality of the Mann-Elkins law. The railroad lawyers believe that the provision empowering the interstate commerce commission to suspend railroad rates is invalid. On this basis the commission's recent decision will be attacked, if at all.

Meeting in Chicago.

Chicago, Feb. 25.—Executives and attorneys for the western railroads are expected to meet here next week to decide upon their action regarding the interstate commission's decision. All indications are that it will be accepted without fight.

In order to appeal the case the roads must decline to withdraw their tariffs, thus forcing the commission to formally fix the present rates as those to be enforced for two years.

Will Not Appeal.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 25. — The Pennsylvania railroad yesterday afternoon notified the interstate commerce commission that it would abide by the decision and would file new schedules by March 10. The Pennsylvania led in the railroad fight for higher rates in the central classification territory.

The interstate commerce commission to-day suspended rate advances vitally affecting the Tap lines and the coal industry in the south and west. Advances on coal shipped from West Virginia to the west and middle west have been postponed until September 5.

New York Market Closes Strong.

New York, Feb. 25.—There was no nervousness at the opening of the stock market to-day. Trading was narrow and the fear of sensational railroad developments had disappeared. Quotations were irregular, but the general tone was strong.

At the opening, Southern railway, Southern Pacific and Reading showed fractional losses. Missouri Pacific was 1-2 higher but soon lost its gain. Canadian Pacific advanced two points during the early trading.

The market closed strong.

Realizing that all danger of a serious slump had passed the big financiers rushed to get their money out of the market. As a result New York Central, Missouri Pacific, Reading and other prominent issues declined nearly a point from yesterday.

CHAMPION WILL FIGHT.

Champion Jack Jackson, who is at present in California, declared he would fight Sam Langford, victor over Lang in London, anywhere and at any time three months after his terms were met. Regarding the terms he demanded a guarantee of $30,000 as his share of the purse. He also said he would insist upon an American referee if the fight should be held in London. Johnson added that he had not changed his opinion regarding Langford's ability.

LIBERAL ELECTED.

London, Feb. 25.—The bye-election for the Forest of Dean division of Gloucester, vacant by the death of Sir Charles Dilke, resulted as follows: Webb, Liberal, 6174; D. H. Kyd, Unionist, 3,106; majority, 3,068

U. S. TREATY WITH JAPAN RATIFIED

PASSES THE SENATE WITHOUT ROLL CALL

Western Senators Decide Not to Stand in Way of the New Agreement

Washington, D. C., Feb. 25.—The new Japanese treaty of trade and navigation was ratified last night after a two hours executive session of the senate. While the apprehension of western senators that the treaty might let down the bars to coolie labor was not entirely removed, these senators contented themselves with expressing their solicitude. They interposed no objections to ratification.

The action in promptly confirming the new agreement is expected to do more to prove the feeling of cordiality that this country has for Japan than anything done for many years. The effect will be to permit Japan to enter at once upon a reorganization of its financial system and the making of new tariffs with all nations.

Japan's treaties with other powers are to expire July 17. That with the United States, by reason of its later ratification, would have continued until the same date a year later had not this government consented to its expiration at the same time as the others.

When the new treaty was received from the president on Tuesday, it immediately became the subject of wrangles. Pacific coast senators feared it might have an effect on the labor situation on the western coast, by reason of the omission of the clause in the treaty of 1894, which it supersedes, recognizing the right of this government to pass an exclusion law. Friends of the treaty explained that the diplomatic notes accompanying it definitely pledged the Japanese government to prevent an influx of undesirable coolies through the rigid scrutiny of all passports. An alien without a passport would of course be liable to deportation.

The California senators, it is said, became satisfied early that the change would not menace the labor situation in their state. Several other western senators became alarmed, however, at what seemed to them unseemly haste in pressing the senate to act. They desired sentiment to crystalize in their states and therefore prevented action for three days.

Supporters of the treaty endeavored to show that the presence of the clause on the subject of immigration in the treaty of 1894 was obnoxious to the dignity and pride of the Japanese Empire, especially as neither it, nor any similar clause, is in any treaty with another country. It was argued further that the existing treaty would have expired in another year and this country could not hope to induce Japan to sign a new treaty containing such a clause.

After a full discussion, the western senators said they would not stand in the way of ratification, which was accomplished without a roll call.

NO MORE RIDING ON FRONT PLATFORMS

B. C. Electric Announces Edict Barring Passengers From That Part of the Car

In supplementation of an advertisement which appears in another part of the Times, A. T. Goward, local manager of the British Columbia Electric Railway, wishes the fact to be made known to the public that on and after March 3 passengers will not be allowed to ride on the front platform of any of the company's cars. This action is being taken in obedience to one of the provisions of the new provincial Railway Act.

It will be observed by cute side-steppers of the law, however, that nothing is said against promenading the rear platform, and in all probability this fascinating portion of the street car will be taxed to capacity in the future. The sum of human freedom is that which is not prohibited by statute; and salling close to the wind, if the expression may be permitted in such a land-lubbing connection, is always an engrossing pastime.

There can be no doubt that the front platform on the cars was as popular as the observation room on a steamer, and the edict barring it from further trespass will be a keen disappointment to the smokers, whatever advantages it may mean for the much-harrassed motorman and safety to passengers—although, by the way, the latter have never suffered from any act of the man at the switch handle by the long existing measure of liberty.

KILLED IN MILL.

Portland, Ore., Feb. 25.—Caught between the carriage and edger at the St. John's planing mill yesterday, W. D. Keezar, 42, an employee, was crushed and instantly killed. He is survived by a widow and four children.

J. J. GORMULLY DEAD.

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, Feb. 25.—After a brief illness from pneumonia the death occurred last night of Joseph James Gormully, K. C., one of the best known legal men in Canada and a foremost citizen of the capital. He was born in England in 1845, and leaves one son and two daughters.

RECIPROCITY—FROM A SANE POINT OF VIEW.

UNCLE SAM—Tarnation fine gal, that, Johnny; but mighty peart and darned independent.

JOHN BULL—She is that Sammy, my lad. Bound, as she says, to be mistress in her own house. And, after all, can you blame her, Sammy; can you blame her?

UNCLE SAM (wistfully)—No, Johnny, to be honest with ye, I don't believe I kin. And if our fortunes cannot be jined, let us two not forgit that the gal has been instrumental in removing all the misunderstandings that have existed in our minds and killing the prejudices that have rankled in our breasts for more than a century.

THREE PERSONS LOSE LIVES IN FIRES

Woman Returns to Burning House for Valuables and is Overcome by Smoke

(Special to the Times.)

Dauphin, Man., Feb. 25.—The dwelling house of Geo. W. Fulford, ten miles northeast of here, was burned last night, and Mrs. Mary Fulford, aged 76 was burned to death. She was the only person in the house at the time, and was the first to give the alarm. Her son Hirram, who lives nearby, hurried to the scene. The deceased entered the house to secure some valuables and was overcome by the smoke, and perished before she was missed. The charred body was recovered this morning. She came from Port Hope, Ont., and leaves three sons.

Two Perish.

New Glasgow, N. S., Feb. 25.—John McDonald, aged 78 years, and Annie, his sister, aged 76 years, perished last night when their home caught fire at Irish Mountain, near here. The body of John McDonald was recovered but that of his sister is still in the glowing debris of their dwelling.

HOLD-UP MAN DIES FROM HIS WOUNDS

John Ford, Who Killed Seattle Policeman, Passes Away in Hospital

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 25.—Just before he died on the stroke of midnight last night, John Ford, hold-up man who figured in the desperate battle with the police Thursday night in which he shot and killed Patrolman Davis, and Davis, with his last bullet wounded him fatally, called a nurse to send a message to his mother

"She is Mrs. B. Ford, of 334 Central avenue, Cleveland," he gasped. "Tell her I'm sorry that I turned out bad. But I was out of work and ran across this other hold-up man and he told me we could make some easy money."

Ford is only 22 years of age.

TO ENLARGE PLANT.

Hamilton, Ont., Feb. 25.—The Oliver Chilled Plough Works Co. of Canada, which has secured a permit to erect a $200,000 building, will, it is announced, spend $600,000 on its local plant.

BURNED BY AVALANCHE.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 25.—Sixteen school children were killed to-day when an avalanche buried a school house at Alhga.

DECLARES ASQUITH MISLED COUNTRY

HON. H. CHAPLIN ON TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

Earl Beauchamp Ridicules the Statement That Agreement is Imperial Disaster

London, Feb. 25.—Right Hon. Henry Chaplain, speaking at Wimbledon, strongly objected to Ambassador Bryce aiding or facilitating the reciprocity treaty. Premier Asquith had said Ambassador Bryce had had nothing to do with the negotiations, but unfortunately such a statement was in direct conflict with that of Mr. Fielding. It was not the first time Premier Asquith had made statements by which the country and parliament were entirely misled.

Earl Beauchamp, speaking before the City of Bristol club, said that to describe the reciprocity agreement as an imperial disaster, as Mr. Balfour had described it, was not merely an exaggeration but a great misfortune.

Col. Seeley, colonial under-secretary, described Mr. Balfour as coming an Imperial cropper. Col. Seeley regarded the agreement as a source of immense strength to the British empire and a further guarantee of peace for the whole world.

Vancouver, Feb. 25.—The resolution of Messrs. H. A. Stone and J. N. Harvey, condemning the reciprocity arrangement with the United States, was last night defeated by a vote of 10 to 7 at a sparsely attended meeting of the Vancouver board of trade. Some other half dozen members preferred to remain neutral on the question at issue.

That the completion of the arrangement would raise the prices of lumber in British Columbia at least a dollar; that Canadian fruit and farm lands would fetch the same prices as those of the United States; that the terms offered by Mr. Taft's government were better than were expected, and that any Canadian cabinet since confederation would have been glad to get them; that the greater prosperity that will ensue will lead to even greater loyalty to the empire. Such were the main arguments in favor of reciprocity and against the resolution.

FACE INDICTMENT.

Portland, Ore., Feb. 25.—Scores of prominent Portland men, including B. S. Joselyn, president of the Portland Railway, Light and Power company, Tom Richardson, former manager of the Commercial club; C. A. Whitemore, G. A. Himes, the historian, and many others are facing indictment at the hands of the county grand jury as a result of the lively mill between Bud Kruger of Oakland and Lee Ward of Portland, at the banquet of the Pacific Coast Printers' congress, held in the Commercial club last night. The grand jury began an investigation of the fight to-day and will call witness Monday to testify what took place at the banquet given the leading employing printers of the Pacific coast and which was attended by a large number of local men who are prominent in the state and city.

TWO KILLED IN RAILWAY ACCIDENT

Train Jumps Tracks—Passenger Coach and Four Cars of Lumber Destroyed

(Special to the Times.)

Halifax, Feb. 25.—Two persons were killed and scores of others injured, some seriously, last night when the Halifax and Southwestern mixed train from Fort Wade and Middleton jumped the rails at New Germany junction. The dead are: Owen McLaughlin, baggagemaster; L. Sargent, Bridgewater, brakeman.

One passenger car and four cars of lumber went over the steep embankment and the wreckage took fire.

EIGHTEEN MINERS KILLED.

Bridge Breaks and Trains Falls 150 Feet to Bottom of Ravine.

Valparaiso, Feb. 25.—A railway train made up of eight cars in one of which were eighty miners, and the others loaded with cement, broke through the Rancagua bridge near the American Braden Copper mines. The bridge crosses a ravine 150 feet deep, and the train fell to the bottom. The miners were all Chileans. Eighteen of them were killed and the remainder injured. The only American hurt is Engineer Albert Bragenton of San Francisco.

LLOYD GEORGE IS AGAIN INDISPOSED

Chancellor of Exchequer is Confined to House—Condition Causes Anxiety

(Times Leased Wire.)

London, Feb. 25.—As a result of participating in the debate in the House of Commons on the veto bill, Chancellor of the Exchequer Lloyd-George is to-day confined to his home with neurasthenia. His friends are alarmed.

PREVENTS CLOSING OF SCHOOL.

Medford, Ore., Feb. 25.—To prevent the closing of the school at Prospect over which she presides because of the lack of the necessary five pupils, Mrs. Gertrude Peeler has imported two of her younger sisters. As a result school at Prospect is in daily session, despite the fact that the cold winter drove a number of residents with their families into the valley.

NATIVE DWELLINGS BURNED.

Manila, Feb. 25.—Three hundred native dwellings in Tondo, a suburb of Manila, were destroyed by fire to-day. The Mary Johnson hospital was heavily damaged.

RECIPROCITY BILL BEFORE SENATE

NORTH DAKOTA SENATOR ATTACKS MEASURE

Declares Northwestern States Will Suffer If Agreement Is Ratified

(Times Leased Wire.)

Washington, Feb. 25.—Taking the stand that the ratification of the Canadian reciprocity measure would do great harm to the northwestern states, Senator McCumber, of North Dakota, this afternoon denounced the proposed treaty in the senate.

"By ratifying that treaty," he said, "you will strike the cereal and stock interests of the northwestern states a staggering blow, but they will arise and return the blow with compounded interest.

"It will not be to the advantage of manufacturers to gain by reciprocity at this time. The adoption of the reciprocity principle will settle the great fundamental policy of the United States. The logical development of that policy will be a swift stroke of retributive justice to the manufacturers now urging the change.

"When this compact passes, every doubt of the propriety of taking up the tariff proposition, schedule by schedule and subject by subject will vanish."

McCumber declared that the protective idea would be crushed to death by outraged farmers. He said the newspaper attacks on Payne, Aldrich and Cannon were responsible for the reciprocity treaty and warned them that protection must stand as a whole or fall as a whole.

McCumber predicted that if the reciprocity agreement was ratified, American exportation to Canada would be increased $15,000,000 annually, but the American importations from Canada would reach $150,000,000.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

(Special to the Times.)

Toronto, Feb. 25.—Among the appointments made by the grand see of the grand chapter of Royal Arch Masons this morning, are: Grand master of second veil, John H. Roaf, Vancouver; grand organizer, John Black, Dawson; grand stewards, Dr. A. Schnarr, Kenora; A. D. Dickson, Wetaskiwin; R. E. Plewman, Rossland, B. C., and J. R. Anderson, Arcola, Sask.

ACCIDENTALLY SHOT.

(Special to the Times.)

Whitemouth, Man., Feb. 25.—Louis Grabke, a farmer, was accidentally shot by a young lad named Snell, with whom he was shooting at marks thrown up to the air to-day. Snell handed the rifle to Grabke, muzzle first, after having fired and loaded saying, "Now it's your turn." The trigger was accidentally pulled, and the charge entered Grabke's side. He staggered to the house crying out, "I'm shot," and fell dead at the threshhold.

SEVENTEEN MEN KILLED IN MINE

Bodies of All Victims of Accident in Nevada Have Been Recovered

(Times Leased Wire.)

Tonopah, Nev., Feb. 25.—With the recovery to-day of two more bodies from the Belmont mine, the death list now totals 17. Shortly before noon a rescuing party found the body of Frank Burke, a shift boss, lying at the bottom of the 1,166-foot level, and that of an unidentified Slav in a stoke-hole just above the 1,100-foot level.

Rescuers to-day made a complete search of the mine, but no other victims were found. With the finding of the bodies of Burke and the Slav it is believed all the missing men are accounted for.

A coroner's jury will be called this afternoon to view the remains and an inquest will be held either Sunday or Monday. With the fire out and the smoke and gas rapidly clearing, the officials expect to resume operations on Monday.

INTERNATIONAL RUGBY.

Ireland Defeats Scotland by Sixteen Points to Ten.

(Special to the Times.)

Edinburgh, Feb. 25.—In the international Rugby match here to-day Ireland beat Scotland by 16 points to 10. Wales and Ireland are now tied with two wins each. They play March 11.

INSURGENT TO BE TRIED.

Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 25.—Private dispatches received from Calexifo state that Fernadez Palomares, an insurrecto, who was taken to Calexifo for treatment, has been turned over to the United States authorities to be prosecuted, probably on a charge of inciting an armed expedition against a friendly nation. It was stated he would be brought to Los Angeles at once.

RUSSIAN CONSULS.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 25. — China, through her minister here, has given verbal assurance to the Russian government that no obstacles will be placed in its way for the immediate appointment of consuls in Mongola.

PLANS FOR THE NEW UNIVERSITY

HON. DR. YOUNG GIVES HOUSE AN OUTLINE

Grounds and Buildings Are Described—Denies That Party Friends Got Information

Legislative Press Gallery, Feb. 24.

In a most interesting speech this afternoon Hon. Dr. Young, minister of education, gave the House a brief sketch of the plans for the University of British Columbia, which he hopes to see become an institution of learning second to none in the world.

Not the least important portion of the minister's speech was that in which he explained how it is proposed to bring the fienefits of the university to those who are not able to attend its classes.

Dr. Young spoke on the second reading of the bill which gives authority to the lieut.-governor-in-council to grant certain lands at Point Grey as a site for the university. He described the site, its natural advantages and its conveniences. The reason for the reservation of foreshore was for the prevention of any commercial enterprises establishing plants along the waterfront of the university grounds, which it was desired to preserve for the boathouses, etc., in connection with the institution. The site itself comprised 170 acres—one of the most beautiful spots in all of this most beautiful province of British Columbia. The appearance of the university in its majectic setting would fittingly mark it to arrivals by water. Visitors must, too, be duly impressed with the confidence shown by the government in the province's future in thus setting aside so beautiful a site as well as in making so generous an endowment for the university. A sum of $5,000 had also been appropriated for competitive plans for the university buildings. It was not yet exactly decided what form this competition would take, whether it would be open to all, or certain architects well known to specialize in such magnificent undertakings.

Speaking incidentally of the choice of site, Dr. Young said the commission had travelled all over the province, had heard representations of boards of trade and other representatives of the various communities, and had returned with their report to the government. There was at that time very great speculation throughout the chief centres of the province, among the people and in the newspapers as to the site that would be chosen, and one paper the Victoria Times, had intimated broadly that inside information was being given to those close to the government as to the location that had been or would be chosen. He took the present occasion to publicly deny that there had been at any time any information in this connection given out to any friend of the government, or any opponent of the government or any citizen, prior to the public disclosure of the contents of the final report.

At the time the commission had completed its labors he had been handed by the secretary of the commission what he had been informed was an interim report recommending certain alterative sites. This he had handed back to the commission secretary, at the same time asking him to retain it and asking that the commission might complete its work, complying with the provisions of the act as to the selection of the site, and recommending if not the exact site, at all events the locality or locality. Several months later it had been received from the secretary of the commission its report, which found to bear date of June 28, the also of the proferred interim report. When this report was received he showed it as a matter of course to the chief, the premier, and, as the lieut.-governor was at the time out of city, it had then been put in the vault, no one being advised of its contents, and when his honor had returned it was at once laid before him, and the contents as soon as possible thereafter given to the public through the medium of the press, a fac simile of the complete report, indeed, being printed in one of the newspapers. There had been no justification for any of the insinuendoes in connection with premature knowledge of the commission report, and no legitimate reason for the stand taken in this connection by the Daily Times.

In calling for competitive plans for the university, the architect would be instructed to provide for from 20 to 30 buildings in addition to those which would be erected by the various theological institutions. One of the most important of these will be devoted to the liberal arts and science, with provision for schools of music, of art, of commerce. The next would be an agricultural college, with schools of forestry, of domestic science and veterinary science.

It was not intended to allow the agricultural college to form the nucleus of the university, as was the practice in a number of the states to the south, but to give full attention to this important industry, and provide a complete facilities for acquiring the most useful education in all subjects relating to the agricultural industry. In addition to the college there would be the selection of the agricultural farms in different parts of the province. The principal of these, the central farm, in connection with the agricultural college laboratory, would naturally be located in close touch with the university and its work. In connection with the work of the agricultural college it was hoped that there might be developed a comprehensive scheme by which a general agricultural training might be made a feature of the high school work throughout the province. There would also be at the university a stock pavilion. There would be a college of mining, in connection with which latter the government was

(Concluded on page 8.)