

## CONGRESS TO TAKE UP FREIGHT RATES

Letters and Petitions Going in Big Streams Asking Members To Do So.

### WHERE THE PRESIDENT STANDS

Honors Continue to Come to Newspapermen from the Administration—Washington Holiday Gossip.

Special Correspondence.  
Washington, D. C., Dec. 22.—Members of Congress are being deluged with letters and petitions from constituents, urging Congress to enact legislation giving the interstate commerce commission larger powers to deal with the subject of freight rates. There is seemingly also a tendency among the larger railroad officials to fall in with President Roosevelt's suggestion of governmental arbitration of freight rates. It is said there is a growing change of sentiment among the railroad men that something should be done to bring about a measure of stability which does not now exist.

It will be remembered that at the outset there was strong opposition from certain railroad and corporation quarters to any legislation that might have a tendency to disturb existing conditions. But the more the representatives of the great trunk lines of the country have discussed with their fellow members the president's recommendation in his message to Congress, they have come to the conclusion that the president has no desire to unsettle existing conditions, but hopes that the Congress will treat the subject in a broad and conservative spirit, recognizing that any radical action cannot help but unsettle present values.

These railroad men, it is said, while not agreeing with the president in the form of his suggestion, are inclined to favor the spirit of it. In other words, while they would not invest the interstate commerce commission with the powers recommended by the president, they do believe that the time is coming when some character of governmental regulation of rates and classification must be provided. The representatives of the railway interests of the United States, it is pointed out, think that the question of classification is really an important, if not more so, than the arbitration and regulation of rates. One of these railway officials in a letter to a prominent senator cited an instance of the unjust discrimination made by classification. A shipper of grain complained that one of his business rivals was getting a better rate over another road than his own. It was found that the road in question had given this rival shipper a special classification, filing a copy with the interstate commerce commission, but withholding the same classification from other shippers along the route.

Early in the session it was thought it would be impossible to enact any legislation that would correct known evils in the classification of freight rates. But Senator Elkins of West Virginia has started the agitation anew by introducing a bill in Congress providing for the creation of an interstate commerce court with larger powers than now possessed by the interstate commerce commission. Senator Elkins is taking a very great interest in this question, being interested in a number of railroad himself as director. And as he is chairman of the committee which will have charge of the bill enlarging the powers of the interstate commerce commission, it will have power to arbitrate rates it is readily seen why the West Virginia senator is taking so deep an interest in the question, which extends far beyond the domain of politics.

The subject is certain to be gone into very thoroughly by senators and representatives during the coming recess in order that something definite may eventuate in the 60 working days that will be before Congress on its resumption Jan. 4. Even if a Congressional inquiry is not authorized, although one is considered very likely, leading members of the senate and house committees say that if no action is taken during the short session they will look into the subject during the summer and be ready to report some measure upon which all interests can agree early next December. For the present the question of railway rates and their regulation by the government has put even tariff revision in the background.

### HONOR FOR NEWSPAPER MEN.

The appointment of a day or two ago of James Rankin Young of Philadelphia.

## Life's Change.

Much Suffering at This Critical Period Saved by Dr. Miles' Nerve.

"Change of Life" is one of woman's greatest and most dangerous troubles. Often it is not recognized, and the distressing symptoms are mistaken for Dyspepsia, Liver, Women's Trouble, etc. The depressing constitutional effects of Change of Life, and the female Disorders so common at that period, are best treated with a general nerve restorative which will give tone to the entire system—Dr. Miles' Nerve.

The beneficial effects of this celebrated medicine are very quickly felt, and the constitutional disturbances are relieved, and fresh energy infused into mind and body. It is the medicine which acts on the nerves which regulate the organs of the body.

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## Have you a friend who has a cold on the chest?

Then tell him about Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. Tell him how it cured your hard cough. Tell him why you always keep it in the house. Tell him to ask his doctor about it. Doctors have known the formula for over sixty years.

pills to be chief of the dead letter office, adds another name to the list of men of the newspaper family who have in recent years been called to fill important places under the government. Upon the death of Postmaster-General Payne, President Roosevelt invited Robert J. Wynne into his cabinet. Mr. Wynne had for 20 years been a member of the corps of newspaper correspondents and it was because of his grasp of public affairs and because of his fearless writing that he was first asked to sacrifice his personal financial interests and to accept the appointment of first assistant postmaster-general. It was due to Mr. Wynne more than to any other man that the thriving employees and officials of the department were unseated.

Mr. Frank B. Loomis was a Washington correspondent for many years before President McKinley gave him an important place in the consular service. Mr. Loomis made such a record for himself in looking after America's commercial interests abroad that his promotion to the position of assistant secretary of state was but a just tribute. And Mr. Loomis has filled his present post as well as though he had been born to the diplomatic corps.

Frank W. Palmer, public printer, was a newspaper man in Chicago for many years and has a newspaper record in New York state as well. The board of commissioners of the District of Columbia consists of two civilians and an army officer. The president of the board, Henry B. F. McFarland, Republican, is a Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Record and the Boston Herald. His father before him was a newspaper man. Henry L. West, Democrat, an Englishman by birth, was a reporter and editorial writer on the Post of this city for many years before he was selected as district commissioner. And the people who have business with the district government are unanimous in the opinion that never since the inception of the present form of government for Washington has there been a more competent board of commissioners than that furnished by the newspaper corps.

Francis E. Leupp, who will begin his labors as commissioner of Indian affairs on the first of January in one of the nearest and most forceful writers in the country. Mr. Leupp was one of the founders of the Syracuse Herald and had been trained on the New York Evening Post. For 20 years and up to a few days ago he was the Washington correspondent of the New York Herald. Ellis H. Roberts, treasurer of the United States, was formerly the editor of the Utica, N. Y., Herald. George B. Roberts, director of the Mint, is a trained newspaper man and is at present the principal owner of the Des Moines Register.

Col. W. H. Michael, chief clerk of the state department, had had years of experience as a newspaper writer in Nebraska and in Washington before he was appointed to his present place.

Gen. H. V. Boynton, president of the school board of the District of Columbia and president of the Chalmers Park commission, was for a quarter of a century after the Civil war the Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette. His writings made him famous throughout the United States and his work on the school board has placed the public schools of the District of Columbia in the very front rank of the educational institutions of the country.

Among others of the fraternity who have been appointed to federal positions within the past few years are: Thomas G. Alvord, chief clerk of congressional library; B. B. Stinson, formerly of the Portland, Oregonian, who has charge of newspapers and periodicals in that institution; Robert S. Persons, the former owner of one of the liveliest papers in South Dakota, who is now chief clerk of the interior department; W. Scott Smith for 20 years the correspondent of a string of afternoon papers reaching from Boston to the Pacific, who is chief clerk of the department of the interior; F. A. Crandall, who has been editor of the Buffalo Express, who is librarian of all the government publications sent out from the public printer; Thomas Rynga, a former reporter on the Washington Post, chief clerk of the internal revenue bureau; H. W. Dutton, also a former reporter, deputy recorder of deeds; Maj. A. W. Butt, of the army, who fills the post of depot quartermaster in Washington, was, up to the outbreak of the Spanish war, correspondent of a syndicate of southern papers; J. D. K. Jones, a Kentucky newspaperman, fills the position of deputy auditor for the state department, while Edward L. Adams, consul general at Stockholm, Sweden, was the managing editor of the Elmira, New York, Advertiser for many years previous to his connection with the service.

The list might be extended almost indefinitely, and the fact that without exception every one of the gentlemen named is performing his duties to the entire satisfaction of the president and his cabinet is an apparent indication that no mistake was made when the newspaper corps was so largely drawn upon for federal officials.

### More Guards for President.

Washington, Dec. 26.—The detail of police at the White House has been increased and new precautions are being taken to protect the president as he starts out on his regular afternoon drive. A bicycle policeman has been added to the regular squad. He does nothing but ride up and down the block in front of the White House.

The president always leaves the White House for his outings in the country between 4:30 and 4:45 p. m. He usually rides in an open carriage. Two policemen, two secret service men and the two bicycle policemen who always follow close behind him when he drives out are on guard at the front door when Mr. Roosevelt enters his carriage.

No reason is assigned for the new precautions. The police intimate that the order came from the White House.

### Germans at Fcz Warned.

Tangier, Dec. 26.—The German legation has warned German subjects at Fcz to prepare to leave at a moment's notice.

## CZAR NICHOLAS' REFORM UKASE.

Deals With Subjects Brought to Emperor's Attention by Zemstvos' Presidents' Memorial.

### GOVERNMENT IS NOT PLEDGED.

Each Matter Will be Referred to the Council of Ministers—Constitutional Assembly Not Mentioned.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 25.—Emperor Nicholas' long expected reform ukase was issued tonight. The document deals, under eight heads with practically all the subjects brought to the emperor's attention by the memorial of the congress of zemstvos presidents held here last month, and while not specifically pledging the government to carry out the various reforms in their entirety, as demanded by the memorial, promises that each shall be referred to the council of ministers, with orders to report promptly on the fullest measures of relief which can be accorded on the various subjects.

One question not touched by the ukase is that of the constitutional assembly. Neither is the Jewish religion specifically mentioned though freedom for all creeds or sects, whether Christian or otherwise, is among the subjects which will be dealt with.

The various subjects will be referred to committees for early report.

### LIBERAL PROMISES.

An imperial ukase issued tonight makes decidedly liberal promises under a number of heads. It promises an equal and full enforcement of existing laws; assures the zemstvos of the fullest possible measure of self-government and the enforcement of the law now existing in their behalf; pronounces a scheme of workingman's insurance; extends the liberty of the press and promises a full legal trial of all persons accused.

The imperial decree, which is entitled, "A scheme for the improvement of the administration of the state," is addressed to the senate, and is as follows:

### TEXT OF THE DECREE.

"In accordance with the revered will of our crowned predecessor and thinking unceasingly of the welfare of the realm entrusted to us by God, we regard it as our duty and the government's duty in conjunction with the undeviating maintenance of the immutability of the fundamental laws of the empire, to have untiring care for the country's needs, distinguishing all that is really in the interests of the Russian people from tendencies not seldom mistaken and influenced by transitory circumstances. When the need of this or that change is proved ripe, then we consider it necessary to meet it, even though the transformation to which this leads involves the introduction of essential innovations in legislation. We do not doubt that the realization of such an undertaking will meet the sympathy of the well-disposed as to the subjects, who see the true prosperity of the fatherland in the support of civil tranquility and the uninterrupted satisfaction of the daily needs of the people.

### CARE FOR THE PEASANTRY.

"Placing in the forefront of our care, thought for the best ordering of the life of the most numerous of our estates, the peasant population, we may remark that this matter is already under examination.

"Simultaneously with a detailed investigation of the initial proposals of the ministry of the interior, which are being carried out locally, conferences are now being held by commissioners specially selected from among the most experienced of the highest administrative officials regarding the most important question of peasant life, assisted in the investigation of the general needs of the agricultural industry by the knowledge and experience of local committees. We command those of our subjects, who have regard for the welfare of the peasant population, to bring the laws regarding peasants into unity with the general imperial legislation, thereby facilitating the task of attaining permanent security of this estate which, by decree of the czar liberator, is recognized as consisting of free citizens possessing full rights.

### NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE.

"Surveying the wide domain of the people's uttermost needs, we regard as urgent in the interest of the legal strengthening of civic and public life, the adoption of effective measures for safeguarding the law in its full force as the most important pillar of the throne of the autocratic empire, in order that its inviolate fulfillment for all alike may be regarded as the first duty by all the authorities and in all places subject to us; that its non-fulfillment shall inevitably bring with it legal responsibility for every arbitrary act, and that persons who have suffered wrong by such acts shall be enabled to secure legal redress.

### LOCAL INSTITUTIONS.

"Second—That local and municipal institutions should be given as wide scope as possible in the administration of various matters affecting local welfare, and that they should have conferred upon them the necessary independence, within legal limitations, and that representatives of all sections of the population's interests in local matters should be called upon in equitable conditions, to take part in those institutions with a view to the complete satisfaction possible of their needs. Beside the government's zemstvo district institutions hitherto existing there should be also established in con-

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nation with their public institutions for the administration of local affairs in localities of smaller extent.

### EQUALITY BEFORE THE LAW.

"Third—That in order to secure equality of persons of all classes before the law, steps should be taken to bring about the necessary unification of judicial procedure throughout the empire and to assure independence of the courts.

### PROTECTION OF WORKMEN.

"Fourth—That for the future development of the measures introduced by us for the protection of workmen in factories, workshops and commercial establishments, attention is to be given to the question of the introduction of state insurance for workmen.

### REVISION OF EXCEPTIONAL LAWS

"Fifth—That there should be a revision of the exceptional laws decreed at the time of an unparalleled outbreak of criminal activity on the part of the enemies of public order and the application of which was attended with a grave extension of the discretionary power of the administrative authorities; and that at the same time steps should be taken for circumscribing their application within the narrowest possible limits and for assuring that limitation of the rights of private persons involved in that application shall only be permitted in cases where the actual safety of the state is threatened.

### CZAR'S DESIRE.

"Sixth—That in confirmation of my undeviating heart's desire, as expressed in the imperial manifesto of March 3, 1901, for the protection by the fundamental laws of the empire of tolerance in matters of faith, the laws dealing with the rights of communities and persons belonging to heterodox and non-Christian confessions should be submitted to revision, and that independently of this, measures should be taken for the removal of all limitations on the exercise of their religious not directly mentioned in the law.

### WHAT SHOULD REMAIN.

"Seventh—That there should be such revision of existing ordinances limiting the rights of foreigners and measures in certain localities of the empire that in the future there shall remain only such of them as are required by the present interests of the empire and the manifest needs of our people.

### UNNECESSARY RESTRICTIONS.

"Eighth—That all unnecessary restrictions should be removed from the existing press laws, and that printed speeches should be placed within clearly defined legal limits, that the native press in accordance with the progress of education and the independence thereby accruing to it, should be left to the possibility of worthily fulfilling its high calling, namely, to be the true interpreters of reasonable strivings for Russia's advantage.

### INTERNAL CHANGES.

"Acting upon the above principles, with a view to a series of great internal changes impending in the early future, part whereof, under instructions previously given by us, are already under preliminary examination, we deem it well, in view of the diversity and importance of these changes, to fix an order of business for consideration of means and the possibility of their early and complete realization. The dependent progress of the administration throughout the whole series of our state institutions.

"With reference to the above-mentioned subjects the council of ministers has to examine the best way of giving effect to our views and to submit to us at the earliest possible date its decisions as to the further shape of the above mentioned measures in their prescribed order. The committee is also to report to us as to the subsequent progress of the elaboration of matter maintained.

(Signed) "NICHOLAS."

The ukase was issued so late that its contents were not generally known even in the newspaper offices until after midnight. Among those able to express an opinion it was considered to be a document whose significance was dependent largely upon the interpretation given by the various committees as to the measure of liberty which it is possible to grant under the various heads named. Naturally it has not met the full wishes of the liberals, but on the other hand it is regarded by the reactionaries as promising entirely too much in the direction of liberal reforms. It is complained also that there is some ambiguity of expression in the various sections of the document which will be left for interpretation by those to whom the various reforms are entrusted.

### DISORDERS IN POLAND.

They Are Caused by the New Mobilization.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 26.—While the new mobilization is proceeding quietly in most places, disorders are reported to have occurred in Poland. The most serious disturbance was at Razon yesterday, where one colonel was killed and a girl was wounded. There also has been much rioting at Bakhout, where 1,000 conscripts pillaged a few houses and fruit stalls. No one, however, was killed.

The emperor has his personal aides-de-camp at all the mobilization centers in order that all that is disturbing is done for the inhabitants and conscripts to obtain immediate reports at first hand of any disturbance.

### CHRISTMAS MONDAY

Was Observed as a Holiday at National Capital.

Washington, Dec. 25.—Christmas Monday was observed as a holiday in the national capital. All executive departments were closed and there was a general suspension of private business. The weather was disagreeable and the ground covered with sleet. To President Roosevelt the day was less of a holiday than to many of his fellow citizens. He spent considerable time in his office and also kept a number of engagements which had been made for the day.

During the afternoon the president, in company with Senator Lodge, went out for a walk. The Christmas dinner of the presidential family was given at the usual hour tonight and was a family affair.

### A DYNAMITE EXPLOSION.

Three Totally and a Score of Others Seriously Injured.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—An unexpected explosion of a stick of blasting dynamite today fatally injured three men, injured a score of others and partly wrecked a large steam shovel on the Chicago drainage canal near Lockport. More than 100 men were working within 200 feet of the dynamite when the explosion occurred. All were thrown from their feet, 20 being bruised and lacerated by flying stones and dirt.

### Changes at the Presidio.

San Francisco, Dec. 27.—A number of changes will take place shortly in the garrisons of the Presidio. On Feb. 1 the Twenty-first Infantry, now there, will leave for the Philippines, being relieved at the Presidio by the Sixth Infantry from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. The Eighteenth Infantry, now homeward bound from the Philippines, will proceed to the Presidio, which later on will proceed to the Philippines to replace the Fourteenth Infantry, which will come here.



### GIVE FULL HONOR WHERE DUE.

FORCE, success, power, in war or peace, depend upon the physical condition of the soldier. Most important for success in any life of strenuousness, where brain energy is required as well as muscle power, is a healthy stomach. We do not depend on the food eaten for strength, but on the proper digestion. Very often the stomach is powerless to digest the food properly and the blood gets out of order in consequence, not only because of stomach weakness, but also because the liver and kidneys are not able to get rid of the poisons in the system, and poisonous matters are thrown back into the blood, causing headache, backache, bowel irregularities, and often severe illness, accompanied by jaundice, where these liver poisons are so abundant as to give a yellow color to the skin. The several organs of the body which take care of the worn out tissues, as the kidneys, bowels, liver, get out of order without being noticed, and this poisonous matter becomes an active poison if it remains in the blood. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery helps in driving out the poisonous matter and brings to the blood a tone and vigor which will resist disease. All these organs require nourishing blood as well as the body tissues. The best means of assisting nature to "clean house" and put the system in good order as well as furnish pure, rich blood to the system is by taking that well known vegetable tonic and alterative, Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. Being made without alcohol, this "Discovery" does not shrink up the red blood corpuscles, but gives them a healthy tone and a rich color.

### THE CONTROL OF A STRATEGIC POSITION

often decides a war, and may influence the destinies of a great nation. The strategic points in the body are pure blood and a healthy stomach. The onslaughts of the germs of disease are futile and unavailing, if the strongholds of the bodily defenses are impregnable. The battle of the cells, wherein the blood corpuscles of the body are arrayed against the germs of disease may be decided in favor of one side or the other, and it is only reasonable that we should give the soldiers of the system every advantage. If the blood is poor, their base of supplies is shut off, and if the poisons of the system are retained, the flank attack thus encouraged often results in a complete victory for the disease germs. There is no remedy that will

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