

ERIE RAILROAD MERGER IS APPROVED BY DIRECTORS

14,000 MILES IN THE GREAT SYSTEM

Proposed New 'Nickel Plate' System Will be Capitalized at \$1,500,000,000.

New York, Aug. 25.—Directors of the Erie Railroad Company today approved the offer of the Van Sweringen interests of Cleveland to consolidate the road with four others into their proposed \$1,500,000,000 "Nickel Plate" system.

By this action the Erie railroad shows its willingness to participate in the huge merger, which will result in the formation of a mammoth trunk line with almost 14,000 miles of track traversing the eastern section of the country.

Directors of the present "Nickel Plate" system have already approved the merger, as have the Chesapeake and Ohio and Hocking Valley systems. The sole remaining undecided road is the Pere Marquette, but its directors are said to be favorably inclined and the Van Sweringen brothers also are said to control a large portion of its stock.

Transfer Agreement

Terms outlined by the Van Sweringen brothers to the Erie board, provided that holders of Erie first and second preferred shares would receive fifty per cent. of their holdings in preferred stock of the new company. Common stockholders would receive forty per cent. of their holdings in new common shares.

Total assets of the Erie railroad, which will be the largest unit to be incorporated into the new system, were placed in the last annual report at \$634,302,405. The company has a total outstanding capital stock of \$176,886,800, and a funded debt of \$262,940,550. Property valuation under the recapture clause was estimated in 1923, at \$418,900,000.

Frederick D. Underwood, president of the Erie for 23 years, and one of the veteran railroad executives of the country, is expected to retire after the merger has finally been executed. So far, however, he has refused to discuss reports of his withdrawal.

Humble Beginning

Chicago, Aug. 25.—From a humble beginning as a Pennsylvania coal road of some thirty miles between Crawford Junction, Pa., and Johnstown, Pa., the Erie railroad, organized April 8 1870, as the Wilcox Howard Hill Improvement company, developed a mileage of approximately 2,447. The company owns about 644,000 acres of lands.

The New York, Lake Erie and Western Coal & Railroad company, to which the system changed its name June 28, 1881, was incorporated in New York November 14, 1895, a momentous month for the road. In this month the company acquired control of a majority of the stock of virtually all subsidiary roads, including the Chicago & Erie railroad and the NYPANQ Railroad company on November 19, 1895; the Buffalo and Southwestern Railroad was merged into the Erie.

Bath Road Affected

On February 26, 1915, the Erie and Jersey Railroad company, which extended from Graham, N. Y., to Highland Mills, N. Y., a distance of 39 miles and whose property was leased to the Erie Terminals Railroad company, was merged with the Erie.

The Genesee Railroad company, which owned right of way from Hunts, N. Y., to Cuba, 33 miles, and which was controlled by the Erie Railroad Company was merged with that company March 12, 1915.

The system controls by stock ownership, the Bath and Hammondsport railroad, the New Jersey and New York railroad, and the New York, Susquehanna and Western railroad companies.

Get Application Blanks at Parker's Garage

Automobile drivers in this vicinity will be pleased to learn that County Clerk, D. P. Snyder, has arranged with Roy Parker of the Parker Garage to help in the distribution of application blanks for licensing automobile drivers here.

You can secure your application blanks free of charge at the Parker Garage. Mr. Parker will assist you making it out for a twenty-five cent fee. You may also pay the license fee to Mr. Parker and he will attend to sending your application to the county clerk free.

STEPHEN CHAPMAN INSTANTLY KILLED SUNDAY MORNING

PURE MUSIC WAS A GREAT TREAT

Home Musical Artists Were Given Warm Reception at Concert.

Andover people were given a great musical treat Monday evening in the concert by Miss Alice Rogers, violinist and Miss Elizabeth Cannon, pianist, assisted by Miss Cecil Swarthout and Daniel Murphy of Wellsville.

The splendid work by the two leading young lady artists—both but sixteen years of age—was fully appreciated by their Andover audience. It was a great relief to attend one jazzless musicale, where real music stood out only in pure sweetness.

Miss Swarthout, as soprano soloist and reader and Daniel Murphy, baritone, balanced the evenings program to perfection, so that it was equal to any Chautauqua number and much superior to many that have played Andover.

The News congratulates the two young Andover artists upon their fine work and bespeaks for them a great future in the music world.

Andover music lovers generally speak in the very highest terms of the splendid work Monday evening. It was mighty nice of the young ladies to arrange a program at home where their many Andover friends might be delighted with their music. This time the prophet is known and appreciated in his own land.

Miss Alice Rogers is to make music her life work, specializing on the violin and she must surely feel encouraged after the warm reception that was given her work at home here Monday evening. May success attend her.

The only disappointment Monday evening was the non-appearance of John E. Cannon, in his baritone solos as advertised and which had brot such hearty encores at the other engagements, Whitesville and Greenwood. Illness was the reason.

Mrs. Melissa A. Corwin

Melissa A. Corwin was born in Jordan, N. Y., May 11, 1844, and died August 18, 1924.

She was the daughter of James and Eliza Diffin and came when a child with her parents, to Andover, N. Y., where she lived until her marriage to H. L. Corwin in 1872.

Her home was for a time in Wellsville, N. Y., afterwards in Austin, Pa., from which place she removed to Du Bois, Pa. The present family home. In her girlhood she was for a time a student at Alfred University and afterwards for several years a teacher in the schools of this and adjoining towns. In early life, Mrs. Corwin became a member of the Baptist church in Andover and altho much interested in the work of the church and Bible school, wherever she resided, has always retained her membership in the home church.

She was also for many years active in the work of the W. C. T. U. She was an earnest, devoted Christian, kind, patient and unselfish and was greatly loved by all who knew her. She had for a long time been a sufferer from neuritis but had for a few weeks seemed much improved, and was enjoying a visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kitchen near Coudersport, Pa., when on Sunday, August 17, she was stricken with paralysis and passed away the following day, just at sunset. She is survived by her husband, H. L. Corwin and one son, C. B. Corwin, both of Du Bois, Pa., also five grandchildren, a brother, J. M. Diffin and one sister, Mrs. Emily Cole, both of Andover and several nephews and nieces.

Farewell services were held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kitchen, Thursday afternoon, August 21, and burial was at Costello, Pa.

Rev. A. D. Shepard Goes to Waterloo

It is with great regret that Andover people learned this week of the decision of Rev. A. D. Shepard, to leave the pastorate of the Andover Baptist church to accept the pastorate of a church at Waterloo, N. Y.

Mr. Shepard and his estimable family have won the love and esteem of Andover people since coming to Andover two years ago, and will be greatly missed in social and religious circles. We sincerely hope their move will not be their Waterloo.

Allegany Representatives at I.O.O.F. Grand Lodge

W. H. Thomas and George Smith, of Alfred; Estes Rogers, of Cuba; Ward O. Slocum, of Greenwood, and A. L. Rogers and J. Harvey Backus, of Andover, attended the session of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York I. O. O. F. which opened Monday evening and lasted until Thursday night at New York City last week.

The party met at Hornell and took a drawing-room on train 8 from that city Sunday night, leaving at 9:25 and arriving at Jersey City the next morning at 7 a. m.

Some members of the party had never been to the big town before and the early ride in the Hudson tunnel over to the city going under the mouth of the Hudson River was a new experience. We landed from the subway on Broadway and 79th Street, walking three blocks to 76th Street and found beautiful rooms at Hotel Willard, at a cost of but \$1.50 a day, each, a special rate to Odd Fellow representatives. There were two parlors, two bathrooms and six beds, two suits adjoining and we felt that we were well placed. It was up on quite a hill but a couple of blocks from the Hudson River, and it was cool as a cucumber.

After getting things arranged we went down to Broadway, only one block, found a restaurant and had a fine breakfast, at an average cost of 60 cents each. A party can live in the restaurants of New York in fine shape on a dollar and a half a day and not economize enough so his stomach will accuse him of being mercenary.

Breakfast over, our happy six went out in quest of the Astor Hotel where the Grand Lodge sessions were to be held. After locating it and getting accustomed to the place we took a Fifth Avenue sight-seeing bus ride the entire length of the city to 181st Street, returning by the Riverside drive, getting a fine view of the Hudson River, Grant's Tomb and the Soldiers and Sailors Monument and a peep at Central Park.

We had dinner down on Broadway. After dinner our party was reduced by two, Thomas going out to Staten Island or some other place to visit a brother over night and Ames took in Central Park. It was at times rather hard to keep all six together in the swarm of humanity constantly streaming along Broadway and Fifth Avenue.

The remaining four of the party went down Broadway and "butted in" to the stock exchange. Undoubtedly had we been anything but "tenderfeet" we would not have had that pleasure not knowing any better we walked into the main entrance to the stock exchange as big and cheery as tho we owned the whole establishment. A liveried attendant came up and enquired our business, and when we informed him that we had no business other than to see what we could be very graciously arranged things so we found ourselves soon entering the gallery. Before being allowed to enter the gallery, however, we were invited to register. Suppose this was the "Lamb's Book" and we will all be given further opportunity of investing our surplus change in some "gilt-edge" Wall Street security.

From the gallery we were able to look down on the "pit" and see the actual working of the stock exchange. It was some sight. The whole bunch appeared more like a pack of lunatics let loose for noon than a congregation of business men speculating on the market. There were cries and yelps, first from one and then another. They were rushing from one side of the great room to another, all on the go and seemingly all trying to make their voice carry louder than the others. The stock exchange is one of the big sights in New York City.

From the stock exchange we returned to Hotel Astor, signed up and received our credentials for the big session.

In the evening two of our party who had not received the Grand Lodge degree, attended that meeting and the others went to the "Criterion Theatre," across the street from Hotel Astor and saw Mary Pickford in one of her great picture features.

Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock the real work of the Grand Lodge began and lasted until Thursday afternoon with sessions Tuesday morning from 9 to 12; Wednesday morning from

9 to 12; Wednesday afternoon, from 2 to 5, and Thursday morning, from 9 until 3:30 p. m. without intermission. As we were there for that purpose we all took in all sessions.

Tuesday morning our party was augmented by two others, E. A. Gamble of Alfred and J. F. Miller, from Bath, making eight.

An account of the New York session of the Grand Lodge would be incomplete without mentioning the wonderful entertainment and hospitality extended the delegates by the Odd Fellows of Greater New York. There are 35,000 Odd Fellows in the city with 220 Subordinate Lodges, and it cost the boys a dollar a head to entertain the representatives.

Those who like a good time had ample opportunity for enjoyment. Tuesday afternoon we were given a boat ride from Battery Park around the harbor, on the ship "President Roosevelt" which ended at Coney Island and where a parade marched up Surf Avenue, terminating at Luna Park. After a short rest reviewing a Rebekah parade headed by their State Secretary Miss Agnes Rogers, a string of free admission tickets had been provided each representative to the various Coney Island attractions which were generously used by most of the members of our party, from one dare devil dive to another until all the yard of free tickets had been exhausted.

At seven o'clock one of the celebrated Long Island shore dinners was served to the 800 delegates on the balcony in Luna Park.

Wednesday noon, a luncheon was served at the Astor Hotel, interspersed with songs by the New York city police glee club numbering forty policemen.

At 5 o'clock on Wednesday, a trip was made thru the principal streets of New York in sightseeing buses, which ended at the United Odd Fellows Home and Orphanage, at Unionport, where a luncheon was served to the delegates. Theatre parties were made up for Wednesday evening by many of the delegates, and some of the boys took time from the Grand Lodge to attend one of the National Base Ball games.

After the close of the session Thursday afternoon our party was minus four members, Thomas and Smith taking the 3 o'clock train for home and Gambel and Miller going over to Staten Island to pass a weekend with friends.

The remaining four went up town to 115th Street and met a friend of W. O. Slocum, one Ross Baker, who is a contracting electrician. He patrolled us over the campus of Columbia University and pointed out the many features.

Friday morning A. L. Rogers started for Westbury, R. I. to visit relatives over the week-end, and the remaining three came home by the daylight train, No. 1001.

SECRETARY OF STATE ON SPEAKING TRIP

Will Visit Angelica and Little Valley Fairs and Talk on Farm Problems

Albany, N. Y., Aug. 26.—Leaving his home in New York City on Labor Day, September 1st, Secretary of State, James A. Hamilton, will motor out to Western New York where he will speak on Tuesday, September 2nd in Little Valley, Cattaraugus County; on Wednesday, September 3rd in Angelica, Allegany County; and on Friday, September 5th, in Naples Ontario county. Secretary Hamilton had also agreed to speak on Thursday at Troupsburg in Steuben County but due to a large amount of road construction in the neighborhood travel is most difficult and the fair authorities determined to hold no fair this year.

Secretary Hamilton is greatly interested in the problems which confront the farmer today and his address will be strictly along agricultural lines.

The people who would buy what you would like to sell—or who would sell what you'd like to buy—are, of course, readers of the classified ads.

SOCIAL I. O. O. F. ORDERS COMBINE

Orients Amalgamated With Other Odd Fellow Organizations.

Rochester, N. Y.—Changing completely its name, ritual, regalia and constitution, the Order of Humility and Perfection in session in Rochester, recently, began a new era in its history—that will undoubtedly see it established as one of the most influential fraternal social orders in the country.

The organization, which is a social one comprising members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in combining with various clubs of Odd Fellows thruout the country becomes the United Order of Splendor and Perfection, and begins its new era with a membership of nearly 150,000, confidently expecting to double this number within two years.

New Officers Elected.

Officers elected to serve during the coming year are Kirtland M. Wilson, of Providence, R. I., Supreme Monarch; Frank Shannon Pittston, Pa., Supreme Khalifah; John C. Hacklund, Chicago, Supreme Sheikh; Judge Edgar S. Mosher, Auburn, N. Y., Supreme Sheriff; John L. Hayden, Schenectady, N. Y., Supreme Clericus and Frank Van Riter, Philadelphia, Supreme Fi-cus.

The amalgamation of the societies brings into the supreme organization the Oriental Order of Humility and Perfection, the Muscovites, the Knights of Oriental Splendor and the Cabri, all of them the social and fun organizations whose membership is limited to Odd Fellows.

16,000 Visitors Present

More than 16,000 Odd Fellows and their relatives were present, and approximately 50 sanctuaries of the Oriental Order of Humility and Perfection participated in a great parade, which was reviewed by city and county officials.

Royal Ladies Elect.

The Supreme Royal Ladies of the Orient, whose membership is limited to Rebekahs, held their sessions at the same time, 300 delegates attending the meeting, which is the fifth international convention.

Mrs. Jennie O'Dell

Jennie Bassett O'Dell was born at Naples, N. Y., sixty-six years ago last February and died at her home in Independence, August 31st, 1924, following an illness of seven weeks. A number of years ago deceased was united in marriage with the late Jackson O'Dell and came to his home at Independence to reside and where since the death of her husband, she had remained to preside over the home, occupied by herself and two stepsons.

Mrs. O'Dell is survived by two stepsons, Andrew and Adelbert O'Dell of Independence and a stepdaughter, Mrs. Laderia Trask of Fulmer Valley. She was a member of the Methodist church of Naples and of the W. R. C. of Whitesville.

Funeral services were held from the home Saturday, August 23rd, Rev. F. M. Polard of Whitesville, officiating.

NECK WAS BROKEN IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Sheriff Finds Empty Bottles and Evidence That Chap- mans Were Drinking.

Stephen Chapman, of this village, was instantly killed early Sunday morning, as the result of a headon collision between two cars, about three-quarters of a mile from Almond on the Almond-Angelica road. He was killed instantly and was 43 years of age.

Mr. Chapman's nephew, Archie Chapman, was driving the car, which was occupied by Stephen Chapman and Sarah Stenitz, said to be a house-keeper for Archie Chapman.

Lee Bailey was the driver of the other car, John Dixon was an occupant. Both reside on the Karr Valley road. Neither were injured.

Booze undoubtedly was the important factor in causing the accident, Sheriff Weir, of Belmont, Allegany County, said this afternoon. He was on the scene shortly after the accident and made a complete investigation. "The Chapmans and the woman undoubtedly had been drinking. We found broken bottles in their car which had evidently contained liquor. He also found a bottle containing something which was labeled 'Jamaica Ginger' and marked 90 per cent. alcohol."

There was a gold bracelet covered with blood found at the scene of the accident.

According to the investigation made by Sheriff Weir, Lee Bailey and John Dixon had been to Hornell. They were on their way home with Bailey driving. They were ascending a hill. The car was being driven in low. Suddenly, over the brow of the hill, coming at terrific speed, the sheriff says the probe reveals, came the car which contained the Chapmans and the Stenitz woman.

The Bailey-Dixon car was on the extreme right of the road, the sheriff says. The other was traveling on the left or wrong side, he says. The collision was headon. The death car was wrecked completely. The impact caused it to turn bottomside up.

Dr. C. R. Bowen of Almond was called, but medical assistance was not necessary as none were seriously injured excepting Stephen Chapman and he was killed instantly by being thrown from the car, alighting on the back of his head breaking his neck.

Coroner Cooley was called and an inquest held in Andover, Monday.

Marks in the road showed the relative position of the two cars, Sheriff Weir says. The accident happened about 1:30 o'clock Sunday morning.

Funeral services were held Tuesday morning at the Methodist church, Rev. A. C. Shepard officiating and burial made in Hillside cemetery.

Pease-Richey Reunion

The Pease-Richey reunion will be held at Island Park, Wellsville, Saturday, August 30.

Diamond Crystal Salt With Iodine

Iodine is a preventive of Goutre. Protect your health by using Diamond Crystal Iodine Salt in your cooking and for table use.

MRS. C. W. WILLIAMS