

### From Call Boy To Railroad President



William M. Jeffers (top) began his railroad career 47 years ago with the Union Pacific as a call boy. On October 1 he becomes president of the transcontinental line.



Veteran Carl R. Gray (bottom) celebrated his seventieth birthday, the retirement age, on September 28, and will become vice-chairman of the board of directors.

Both executives are well-known throughout southern California.

### Jeffers Takes The Presidency

W. M. Jeffers, who started as call boy for the Union Pacific railroad, becomes president of that system October 1, succeeding Carl R. Gray. He also becomes a member of the board and is the first Union Pacific employee to rise from train yards to presidency.

Mr. Gray becomes vice-president of the board and a member of the executive committee.

W. A. Harriman, chairman of the board, officially announced, "The Board of Directors of the Union Pacific railroad company and its system companies have effected changes in its organization which were announced last April. Carl R. Gray, who attained the age of 70

years on September 28, and retires from the presidency October 1, has been elected vice-chairman of the boards and a member of the executive committees. W. M. Jeffers, executive vice-president, has been elected member of the boards and president to succeed Mr. Gray and the position of executive vice-president has been abolished."

Mr. Jeffers, born January 2, 1876, at North Platte, Nebraska began his railroad career with the Union Pacific in June 1890 as call boy. He rose with that company successfully as clerk, timekeeper, steel gang foreman, telegrapher, train dispatcher, chief dispatcher, superintendent, general superintendent, general manager operating vice-president, executive vice-president and now president.

Born at Princeton, Arkansas, Mr. Gray attended the preparation department of the University of Arkansas and entered railway service as telegrapher for the St. Louis & San Francisco in 1883 and was successively station agent, commercial agent, division freight agent, division superintendent, superintendent of transportation, general manager, operating vice-president, and senior vice-president. In 1911 he became president of the Spokane, Portland & Seattle railroad and in 1912, president of the Great Northern railway.

From January, 1918, to January, 1919, he was director of transportation and later director of operation of railroads under federal control, and on January 1, 1920, he became president of the Union Pacific. He has been a director of the Association of American Railroads and of the Railway Express Agency since organization, and for five years was director of the United States Chamber of Commerce.

### Nevada State News In Brief

#### VISIT NAVAL DEPOT

The naval ammunition depot was visited last week by a group of congressmen interested in a projected new magazine area and a concrete loading platform for the depot. Headed by Representative J. G. Scrugham, those making the tour of inspection were Representatives Fernandez of Louisiana, Ditter of Pennsylvania, and Plumly of Vermont.

#### CLEAN UP

Tonopah cleaned house after the heavy rainfall and miniature flood which swept through Main street last week. To clean up the debris power shovels and large scrapers were used. Cellars and basements were bailed out Thursday and electrical equipment removed for cleaning.

#### CHILD BURNED TO DEATH

Fire Saturday snuffed out the life of a two-year-old Evelyn Moore asleep in her crib at the old Blackwell ranch northeast of Carson City, as flames destroyed the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nellis Moore, who were at the Douglas county fair. Two other children were at the fair and the girl's sister, Virginia, 5, had been left at home to care for the baby.

#### COMMITTS SUICIDE

Tying the butt of his rifle to a clump of willows, fastening another

string to the trigger and placing the barrel against his heart, Cecilio Larrondon, Elko county rancher, took his own life Wednesday afternoon of last week. The tragedy occurred between 3 and 4 o'clock, near the old Tom Hunter ranch on the Humboldt river below Elko, and above the point where the South Fork comes into the Humboldt.

#### MISS SISSA LEAVES THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA

Miss Louise Sissa, who for 31 years has been registrar at the University of Nevada, has been retired and expects to move to San Francisco. She was honored with a banquet by the members of the Blue Key, a society, entrance to which can be gained only on scholarship.

#### KIWANIANS ELECT OFFICERS

At the annual election of the Kiwanis club held Wednesday Frank Beam was named president, S. Gene Parks vice-president, Dean Bingham treasurer, and Ed Henderson, Charles S. Sloan, Floyd Peterson, Ralph Purdy, C. D. Baker, H. B. Sloan and Bruce Kilpatrick directors. These officers will be installed on January 1, 1938. Oliver Goerman was admitted to membership.

#### ODDFELLOWS INITIATE

The Oddfellows held a special initiation ceremony Wednesday evening in their rooms in Eagles hall. Special guests were members of the Kingman lodge. The ceremonies ended with a Dutch lunch.

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