

WOULD DEFEAT UNDESIRABLE MEASURE

RESIDENTS OF BITTER ROOT ARE ANXIOUS TO HAVE SENATE BILL NO. 18 KILLED.

MASS MEETING IS HELD

At Request of Senator Miles Romney, People of Hamilton and Vicinity Gather and Discuss Merits of Proposed Act—Unalterable Opposition to Such a Law Is Developed.

Special to The Daily Missoulian.

Hamilton, Feb. 20.—There was another mass meeting held here tonight for the discussion of Senate Bill 18, which has aroused so much interest in the valley this week and which is opposed by a great majority of the people of the Bitter Root. This meeting was called by Senator Miles Romney, who returned home from Helena last night, and who today circulated handbills, requesting the people of Hamilton and vicinity to meet tonight and explain to him wherein the proposed irrigation district law is objectionable. The call brought out a large crowd, and there was unabated interest manifested in the question.

Senator Romney presided at the meeting; he stated that he had learned of the opposition which had developed in the valley relative to Senate Bill 18, and he had asked the people to come together that the objections might be presented; he explained that the bill had been carefully considered by the best posted men in the legislature, and that it is modeled after laws that are in effect in other states. It was explained as a meritorious measure, and he had so regarded it; he wished to know wherein it is wrong.

Responding to the request of Senator Romney, County Attorney McCulloch, Attorney Wagner and Representative Crutchfield spoke. They set forth the objections which the valley people have to the proposed law which had already been discussed at a former meeting. These objections were in brief that the bill is confiscatory, in that it gives too much control to a possible irrigation company; that it would make it possible for the constructors of a big ditch to compel the payment of ditch construction cost by owners of land who were not interested in the ditch and whose lands were not irrigated by the ditch but were in the district; that it makes it possible to assess these non-interested lands for taxes against the ditch; that it deprives a man of his water right without a possible chance for him to protest. The ground was thoroughly gone over, as it had been at the previous meeting.

Attorney Wagner then challenged Attorney O'Hara to present a logical defense of the bill. Mr. O'Hara replied and stated that Senate Bill 18 is really but a re-enactment of the Whiteside irrigation district law, already in effect, except that it has been amended to meet the requirements which experience has developed as not covered by the law enacted two years ago. It is a measure, he said, that has been practically tried in other states and found successful.

At the conclusion of Mr. O'Hara's talk, Mr. Crutchfield read a telegram from Representative Goff, who was presiding at a similar meeting at Stevensville, in which Mr. Goff said he is opposed to the measure and will vote against it.

A motion was then made and carried unanimously that the representatives of Ravalli county be urged to use all honorable means to defeat the bill.

There will be a delegation of about 40 from the valley to Helena Monday. Mr. Crutchfield will go back to Helena if it is possible, but the condition of his wife is such that it may be impossible for him to leave home. Mrs. Crutchfield has been seriously ill for several days, and her condition is regarded as critical.

SUBMIT A REPORT.

Washington, Feb. 20.—L. S. Rowe and Paul S. Reineck, two of the ten delegates to the Pan-American Scientific congress held in December at Santiago, Chile, submitted to President Roosevelt today a preliminary report of the work of the congress. A plan looking toward international uniformity was adopted and will be submitted to the interested nations.

FRENCH EXPORTERS GREATLY ALARMED

Paris, Feb. 20.—French exporters are greatly alarmed at the possibility of a tariff war with America. A delegation, consisting of representatives of the French chamber of commerce and the manufacturers of gloves, lace, porcelain, perfumery, etc., called today on Minister of Commerce Cruppi and pointed out the disastrous effects to them of the proposal of a valuation duties in America, based on the prices there and not in the country of origin. Instead of an increase they insisted that the French general tariff must be reduced to a minimum rate in order to permit greater elasticity in the tariff negotiations which were bound to follow revision here and in America. M. Cruppi promised to take these suggestions under consideration.

CRUISER FIRES WELCOMING SALUTE

NORTH CAROLINA GIVES 13 GUNS IN HONOR OF SPERRY'S BLUE FLAG.

FLEET IS ALMOST HOME

Vessels That Went Forth to Meet Returning Warships Join the Flotilla and All Are Now Moving Toward Hampton Roads, Where They Will Pass in Review Feb. 22.

Fortress Monroe, Feb. 20.—When the saluting guns on the forward bridge of the armored cruiser North Carolina boomed 13 times today in honor of the blue flag of Rear Admiral Sperry on the battleship Connecticut, the combined forces that are now to enter the Virginia capes on Monday morning to be reviewed by President Roosevelt in celebration of the world's cruise of 16 American battleships, were completed. Wireless signals from the North Carolina and her junior escort, the Montana, early today, told of the approach of the last two ships sent to welcome the homecoming vessels to the main body of the fleet. The wireless station at the Norfolk navy yard could not pick up the fleet direct either last night or today on account of static interference in the atmosphere, but the messages from the North Carolina were sufficient evidence that the fleet is near enough to the Virginia capes tonight to insure its arrival off the entrance to Hampton Roads some time tomorrow. The fleet will lay to or maneuver off the capes tomorrow afternoon and evening and will get under way Monday morning in time to pass into home waters and begin filing by the Mayflower exactly at the hour indicated.

Messages Pile Up. Last night's static interference with the wireless at the hotels here, among the apparatus to carry over great distances during the day, have resulted in a congestion of outgoing messages at the Norfolk station that probably never will be straightened out until the fleet actually is in port. Scores of officers' wives are already at the hotels here. Among them are about 19 who made the journey all around the world on merchant ships and who overtook or waited the naval vessels at the various ports visited. Some of these intrepid women even went to Australia, but most of them remained in Japan while their husbands were in the Antipodes.

Social Feature. The social feature of the fleet's return and stay in the capes is to be as notable as the departure. Washington's birthday is to be celebrated as a holiday more generally than ever before in this section, and all the residents of Norfolk, Newport News, Hampton and other cities who can possibly do so will either be afloat or gathered along the shores of the roadstead to witness the impressive arrival of the ships and the ceremonies attending the visit of the president.

The man-of-war anchorage, stretching three miles in a crescent from the Old Point pier, was cleared today of all merchant ships.

After the Mayflower leaves for Washington late Monday afternoon, however, excursion steamers will be allowed within the anchorage grounds and may steam between the two long lines of 20 battleships and five big cruisers.

Emory Arrives. Rear Admiral William H. Emory who commanded one of the divisions of the fleet up to the time of his retirement at Manila last November, arrived today to witness the homecoming of the fleet. The Georgia is not the only one of the 16 battleships that is coming home in command of the executive officer. Captain Hamilton Hutchins, who sailed with the Kearsarge from Hampton Roads all the way to Gibraltar, became ill there and asked for relief. The Kearsarge is probably, therefore, in command of Lieutenant Commander Nathan C. Thwining. Captain Hutchins returned from Gibraltar on the Koenigslue.

REPLY TO BULGARIA. Paris, Feb. 20.—France and Great Britain have replied to Bulgaria's request for recognition before February 27, that they believe this recognition should be a collective act of the signatories of the Berlin treaty, and negotiations are now proceeding in Paris, London, Berlin and Rome with a view to positive intervention in the Austro-Bulgarian-Servian troubles.

JAPS ARE FRIENDLY. Boston, Feb. 20.—The spirit of the Japanese in general is friendly toward the United States, in the opinion of Rev. Dr. Thomas S. Barbour, former secretary of the American Baptist Missionary union, who has just returned from his return from a six months' tour of Japan, China and the Philippines.

WILL BE PRESIDENT. Washington, Feb. 20.—President Roosevelt today informed Chairman West of the committee on permanent organization of the recent conference on the care of dependent children that he would serve as president of such organization when perfected.

MEXICO--NO OFFENSE, SENOR, BUT--



A YOUTHFUL BANDIT FACES TRIAL

BOY ACCUSED OF COMPLICITY IN TRAIN HOLDUP ON TRIAL AT GREAT FALLS.

Great Falls, Feb. 20.—The trial of William Randall, alias Smith, one of the four youths who is charged with complicity in the holding up of the Shelby train a mile west of Great Falls last May, was continued today. The defendant's attorneys are seeking to prove that Randall is weak mentally, and that he was forced to take part in the holdup by threats of death made by Albert Hatch, leader of the band of youthful bandits, who was yesterday convicted of the crime of train robbery.

George Crosswell, aged 17, who is alleged to have planned the holdup, but who did not take an active part in carrying it out, today testified that on the night preceding the robbery of the Shelby train for which night the holdup was first planned, he was forced to go to the scene of the holdup by Hatch and Rheams, the latter being an alleged accomplice, and that as Hatch was about to shoot a switchman he disarmed both Hatch and Rheams and knocked them down, though unarmed himself.

LIVES THREATENED BY FIRE

FLAMES ORIGINATING IN SALOON SPREAD TO HOTEL, BUT GUESTS ESCAPE.

Lovelock, Neb., Feb. 20.—Property valued at \$40,000 was destroyed and the lives of 30 people endangered by a fire that raged in the business portion of Lovelock at 3 o'clock this morning. The blaze, due to an exploding gasoline machine, was brought about in the Stag Inn saloon, and quickly spread to the Franklin hotel, filled with sleeping people. Half a block of business houses was destroyed before the volunteer fire department got the fire under control. Many persons believing that the fire would spread to the residence district moved their household goods into the street and stood guarding them the remainder of the night. A man who tried to loot a burning jewelry store was kicked in the face by a fireman, rendered unconscious and removed to a hospital, where he is in a serious condition.

INDIAN BILL PASSES.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The Indian appropriation bill was passed by the senate today after an amendment by Mr. Teller, making \$25,000 available to the president for the protection by legal proceedings of any Indians deemed deserving.

CAPTAIN MEAD DIES IN THE PHILIPPINES

Virginia City, Mont., Feb. 20.—Word has been received here of the death in the Philippines of Captain Charles W. Mead, one of the most prominent of the national guardsmen of Montana. Captain Mead went to the Philippines with the First Montana at the outbreak of the Spanish war, and at the time of his death was superintendent of coal mines on the island of Cebu. The manner or time of his death is not given. Captain Mead was a construction engineer and surveyor.

DICKINSON IS SLATED FOR CABINET POSITION

PROMINENT TENNESSEE DEMOCRAT IS TO BE MADE SECRETARY OF WAR.

Columbus, Ohio, Feb. 20.—J. M. Dickinson of Tennessee will be secretary of war in the Taft cabinet. Charles Nagel of St. Louis will be Mr. Taft's secretary of commerce and labor, and R. A. Ballinger of Seattle will be secretary of the interior.

This statement is not made upon the announcement of Mr. Taft, but its correctness may be accepted without question. Mr. Taft will permit of no announcement from him as to these conclusions. It has been known for some time, however, that he has practically decided upon Mr. Nagel's appointment, and the interview yesterday bears all the earmarks of having been arranged for the express purpose of an offer and acceptance.

Mr. Dickinson came to Cincinnati from Chicago today. He has not been under consideration as a cabinet possibility for long, but has been personally and most favorably known by Mr. Taft for many years. His eminent legal record and acknowledged ability are such as to commend him peculiarly to Mr. Taft. Mr. Dickinson is a Tennessean, although residing temporarily in Chicago, where his duties as general solicitor of the Illinois Central railway system required his presence. He is a democrat, although he always opposed Bryan.

At Xenia, Ohio, Mr. Taft's car was surrounded by an eager crowd and he came out on the back platform and asked for the support and prayers of the people at the duties of the responsible position he is about to assume may be discharged for the best good of all.

Mr. Taft will reach Philadelphia in the morning and will be the guest of Dr. S. Weir Mitchell. Mrs. Taft will join her husband there, coming from New York.

AMERICANS THRASH MONTENEGRINS

RACE FIGHT IN BUTTE SALOON MAY RESULT IN DEATH OF ONE VICTIM.

Butte, Mont., Feb. 20.—Because they tried to induce a drunken countryman to leave the place, four Montenegrins were set upon and beaten by twenty Americans in a saloon on North Main street at 7 o'clock this morning. One—Nick Popovich—will die, while the other three are in a serious condition. After being beaten until unconscious with dinner buckets and beer bottles, the four were kicked into the street, where they lay some time until a police officer happened along.

At a late hour the authorities had taken no steps toward arresting anyone. Feeling against the Montenegrins and Servians is strong among those miners who come of other races.

MODIFICATION DESIRED.

St. Louis, Feb. 20.—By an interpolation in the motion for a retrial of the Lemp divorce case, filed today, a modification of the decree of Feb. 15 is made possible without the formality of a new trial. The attorneys ask that the present decree be set aside and a new one made. If Judge Hitchcock elects to refuse the motion for new trial, the interpolation gives him power to hand down a decree with such modification as he may wish.

HAGUE WILL SETTLE THE DISPUTED POINTS

THE NEW TREATY BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND CANADA MADE PUBLIC.

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 20.—The treaty defining the rights of American fishermen to fish in Canadian and Newfoundland waters, which now goes to The Hague for adjudication on the disputed points, has been made public. In the negotiations the Americans sought to have the word "rights" used, but under Canadian pressure the word "liberties" was substituted. The British case holds that Americans are subject to reasonable local restrictions in exercising their "liberties." The American contention is against this, they maintaining that any restriction must be incurred in by the United States. Canada also contends that the three-mile limit does not enter bays of less than six miles in width. The Americans claim it follows the shore line.

A supplementary agreement between Ambassador Bryce and Secretary Root provides that the agreement of 1845 for the use of Canzo strait and the Bay of Fundy shall be continued without prejudice to Canada's claim for exclusive jurisdiction in these waters.

CARROLL D. WRIGHT IS DEAD

AGED PRESIDENT OF CLARK COLLEGE SUCCEUMS TO ATTACK OF DIABETES.

Worcester, Mass., Feb. 20.—Carroll D. Wright, president of the Clark college and former commissioner of labor, died tonight, aged 69 years. President Wright had been a sufferer from diabetes for more than two years, but that disease did not give him serious trouble until after his return from Washington on Dec. 7. His last public appearance was at the dinner of the trustees of the Carnegie institute, with which institution he had been connected for some years. He was obliged to take to his bed four days after his return, but rallied within a week. Still he did not leave his room and he had suffered a loss of business since the administration of Clark college through his secretary. This continued for nearly two months, but 10 days ago complications set in and he was forced to relinquish all business, and since that time has failed gradually. His physicians for several days have held out no hope for his recovery, and it was realized that death might be expected almost hourly. The condition of coma into which the patient had sunk in the last hours remained unbroken until he died.

"UNFAIR" PLACES MAY BE "PICKETED"

Oakland, Cal., Feb. 20.—It is not illegal for a labor union to picket a place of business that has been declared "unfair," if the picketing is done in a peaceable manner, according to the decision of Judge Ellisworth given here in the case of Joseph Davis, a local restaurant man, against the Cooks and Waiters' alliance. Because the union posted two pickets in front of his place of business, the restaurant man declared that he had suffered a loss of business amounting to \$250. The court admitted the loss, but contended, inasmuch as the union had not brought it about by unlawful means, damages could not be imposed.

NO AUTHORITY TO PERMIT MERGER

SUB-COMMITTEE FINDS THAT ROOSEVELT EXCEEDED POWERS IN STEEL CASE.

WILL MAKE ITS REPORT

Investigators Decide That Executive's Approval of Absorption of Tennessee Coal Company by Big Corporation Was Unauthorized, as Were His Instructions to Attorney General.

Washington, Feb. 20.—By a vote of three to two the sub-committee of the committee on judiciary which has been investigating the merger of the Tennessee Coal & Iron company and the United States Steel corporation, today decided to report to the full committee that the president was not authorized to permit the absorption.

The committee found also that President Roosevelt was equally unauthorized to direct the attorney general not to interfere with the merger and not to enforce the federal statutes against it. It was decided also that as both companies were engaged in interstate commerce the absorption was a violation of the Sherman anti-trust law. It was found that the effect and purpose of the absorption were to monopolize the iron ore supply of the country and generally to eliminate the Tennessee company as a competitor of the United States Steel corporation.

The fact that such a report was to be made created consternation in the senate. It was realized that if the full committee subscribes to the findings of the sub-committee, the effect would be to administer the severest rebuke to President Roosevelt and practically to direct the attorney general to bring proceedings against the steel corporation under the Sherman law. Leaders in the senate make no secret of the fact that they are unwilling to go that far. Under these circumstances the full committee, when it meets on Monday, probably will decide to consider very carefully the possible effect of the report before deciding to adopt it. The report accepted upon was drafted by Senator Culberson, author of the resolution providing for the inquiry.

Of Great Interest. The inquiry was conducted by a sub-committee of five, Messrs. Clarke of Wyoming, Dillingham, Kittredge, Culberson and Overman. The first three of these are republicans and the last two democrats. Senator Kittredge joined with the two democrats in making the majority report. No minority report was made by Senators Clarke and Dillingham. The sub-committee decided not to make the text of its report public, although the interest in it was so great that the findings became known to practically the entire senate during the afternoon.

In addition to the findings of law, the committee reported on many questions of facts connected with the merger. It was found that during the panic days of November, 1907, the United States Steel corporation purchased all the stock of the Tennessee Coal & Iron company except \$220,160, the amount of the stock acquired being \$20,375,825. It is stated that only \$62,656 in cash was paid for the stock and that bonds of the steel corporation were issued to the amount of \$34,684,978, or nearly \$5,000,000 in excess of the par value of the Tennessee company's stock purchased.

Quotes Message. The report quotes from the president's message declaring the absorption was necessary, according to the representations to him by Judge Gary and H. C. Frick on behalf of the steel corporation, as a certain business firm of real importance in New York financial circles would undoubtedly fall unless the deal could be made.

From testimony of a number of witnesses the report declares that the firm of Moore & Schley, stock brokers of New York, was the one referred to by Messrs. Gary and Frick. This is the concern which managed the affairs of a party of financiers who bought a majority of the stock of the Tennessee Coal & Iron company and held it until November, 1907.

It is asserted by the report that banks in New York, some of them known as Morgan banks, pressed the loans on Tennessee Coal & Iron company stock vigorously, and that these demands were met successfully, until, fearful of the result on account of the business uneasiness in regard to the Tennessee stock, terms were made with the steel corporation. It is asserted the syndicate did not wish to sell its stock, but was forced to do so.

Ultimate Control. From the testimony it is asserted that the Tennessee property is worth several hundred million dollars, and would give the steel corporation ultimate control of the iron and steel trade of the south.

It is asserted by the committee that whatever may be the supposed emergency no discretion is lodged in the president as to the enforcement of the law. It was found in the opinion of a majority of the sub-committee that the president's communication to Attorney General Bonaparte was in effect a direction not to interfere with the merger. It was pointed out that under the federal constitution the president is the one official who is expressly enjoined to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed."

DIXON SECURES IMPORTANT CHANGES

APPROPRIATION BILL AMENDED TO AID BIG IMPROVEMENTS IN MONTANA.

NEEDED FUNDS PROVIDED

Bill Passed by Senate Carries an Appropriation of a Quarter of a Million Dollars for Construction Work on Three Big Irrigation and Reclamation Projects in State.

Special to The Daily Missoulian.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The Indian appropriation bill, which passed the senate this afternoon, contains several amendments of more than ordinary interest to Montana. Two hundred and fifty thousand dollars are appropriated for immediate construction work on the Flathead irrigation project; \$100,000 for the Blackfoot and \$25,000 for the Fort Belknap schemes. The Flathead irrigation project contemplates the thorough irrigation of 100,000 acres of land and three units of the proposed complete system are to be completed during the present year. One unit is to be at Arlee, on the north side of the Jocko; one at Mission, and the third at Poison. At the latter place it is proposed to irrigate the lands by pumping water from the river by means of power derived from the falls.

Senator Dixon today secured an amendment withdrawing water for power purposes for the irrigation scheme covering the lands from Poison south to the Mission power sites. All money in addition to the above appropriation that will be necessary to carry out the irrigation scheme in the Flathead district, must be raised by the sale of timber on the reservation. The department, it is understood, will soon dispose of a sufficient timber to secure the additional money necessary to complete the work contemplated.

Mr. Dixon also secured the adoption of an amendment to the agricultural appropriation bill, in the committee, provided for an increase in the area of the national buffalo range near Ravalli from 13,000 to 20,000 acres and adding \$3,000 to the original appropriation, which is to be used for the purpose of constructing fences and sheds. The bill also carries an appropriation of \$3,000 for maintaining the buffalo range during the coming year. Fences and sheds will be constructed by the government this summer ready to receive the animals which will form the nucleus of the great herd which the government proposes to maintain there.

The senate also adopted the amendments offered by Mr. Dixon, providing the sale of liquor on the Flathead and Fort Peck reservations for a period of 25 years. If the house concurs in the senate amendments there will be a season of much activity on the reservation during the coming year.

WINS CHAMPIONSHIP.

New York, Feb. 20.—Harold F. McCormick of Chicago won the national amateur racket championship today when he defeated George H. Brooke of Philadelphia by three games to one in the final test of this year's national honors at the Racquet and Tennis club. The scores of the final match were 15-6, 10-15, 18-17 and 15-5.

SALOON IS HELD UP.

Butte, Feb. 20.—The Washoe saloon on North Main street was held up this morning at 3 o'clock and the cash register relieved of \$25.50 by two masked men armed with ugly looking guns. There were five persons about the saloon when the robbers entered, and they were all lined up with their hands above their heads.

PASSENGER DERAILED.

Saratoga, N. Y., Feb. 20.—Deep water covering the tracks of the Boston & Maine railroad at Saratoga today caused a passenger train to leave the rails near Victory Mills. No passengers were injured. The rails are under water for several miles.

STEVENSON IS ILL.

Chicago, Feb. 20.—Adlai Stevenson, former vice president of the United States, is ill at his home in Bloomington, Ill., according to reports received here today. His activities in the recent campaign are said to have proved a severe strain on his 74 years.

REACH AN AGREEMENT ON THE SECRETARYSHIP

Washington, Feb. 20.—The conferees of the senate and legislature, executive and judicial appropriation bill have reached an agreement on the question of the secretary of state. To make it possible for Senator Knox to accept that office they have agreed to recommend that the compensation be reduced from \$12,000 to \$8,000 a year. They are still, however, in disagreement on the senate provision creating the office of under secretary of state and adding another assistant secretary. The house conferees object to the title of under secretary on the ground that it is too English. "Vice secretary" is preferred.