

LEBLANC IS LEADER IN LONG RACE

FRENCH AVIATOR IS STILL AHEAD AT BEGINNING OF THIRD LEG OF FLIGHT.

Meziers, France, Aug. 11.—M. LeBlanc, the leader in the cross-country aerial race, continued on the third leg of the course today. Although he experienced great difficulty, he was again the first to arrive at the post. Today's flight was from Nancy to this town, a distance of 93.26 miles. The leader's time was 1 hour, 58 minutes, 3 seconds. LeBlanc, harrasing accidents, is practically sure of winning the race, although M. Auburn and M. Legagneux, who completed the first two laps in single flights, still have a chance. Auburn reached here today two hours after LeBlanc had landed. M. Lindpainter descended and abandoned the race at a point 12 miles from Nancy.

All of the aviators experienced the roughest sailing thus far encountered. LeBlanc had the best luck. He came to the town just ahead of a violent storm which caught his pursuers soon after the start. After leaving Nancy a gust of wind blew away his chart and for a time he was lost in the thick haze. He finally recognized the Meuserver, which he followed over the towns of Moursion and Sedan.

Auburn Runs Off Course.

Auburn, who was the next to get away, received the force of the storm and later ran into thick weather and lost his course. Eventually he found himself over Chalons, where he got the direction for Mezieres.

M. Lindpainter, who started third, was caught in a heavy rain, after he had been in the air a short time and was forced to alight.

The others who started in the race of six stages from Paris to Troyes, Nancy, Mezieres, Amiens and return, a total distance of 485 miles, continue to participate in the local meetings which alternate with the racing days.

Several officers in military airplanes, one of which carried General Maunier, effecting reconnaissances in the vicinity of Nancy at daylight. They, too, met with bad weather and the pilot of the machine occupied by the general lost his direction and finally brought up at Metz, in the district of Lorraine, Germany. From that point the return to Nancy was made.

SOLDIERS ORDERED BACK TO MISSOULA



FRED C. MORGAN, SUPERINTENDENT OF FLATHEAD RESERVATION

Washington, Aug. 11.—The forest service has called on the war department for aid to fight the forest fires in Montana.

General Leonard Wood, chief of staff of the army, has directed that a battalion of the Fourteenth infantry, now maneuvering at American Lake camp, be ordered immediately to Missoula.

Serious forest fires are raging again on the Flathead Indian reservation in Montana and the situation in the Coeur d'Alene national forest in Idaho continues very critical. Conditions in other national forest reserves have materially improved, according to advices received by the forest service.

A telegram received today by Acting Secretary Pierce of the Interior department from Superintendent Morgan of the Flathead Indian reservation, said that seven distinct fires were beyond control and asked that companies of troops be sent to his aid. The war department immediately complied with Mr. Pierce's request.

Associate Forester Potter today was advised of the acute conditions on the Coeur d'Alene national forest in a telegram from District Forester Greeley at Missoula.

On the request of the forest service the war department ordered the troops to assist the forest rangers in meeting the situation.

able to the finance committee of the senate in the preparation of the tariff act of 1909. Regarding paragraph 463 it urged that the rates of duty specified therein should be made 35 per cent instead of 30, as in paragraph 449 of the Dingley act. In support of that recommendation I gave the following reasons to the committee:

"Under the act of 1897 there were in excess of 5,000 cases litigated before the board of general appraisers and the courts due to the fact that paragraph 449 imposed 30 per cent ad valorem on manufacturers of bones, chip, grass, horn, rubber, straw, etc., while manufacturers of wood under paragraph 408, paper under paragraph 407, hard rubber and leather under paragraph 450, dolls under paragraph 418, and hats, bonnets and hoods, untrimmed, for women and children composed of chip, straw, grass of palm leaf, in paragraph 409 were all subject to a duty of 35 per cent ad valorem and these litigated cases involved the almost hopeless tasks of determining which of the materials was the component of chief value.

Miscellany.

"Chip, straw and grass, when manufactured into articles, unless specially named in the tariff act, are always a combination with wood, leather or paper, hence it invariably followed that the government contended that the materials which were subject to a duty of 35 per cent were the components of chief value, while the importers maintained that chip, grass or straw, which were subject to a duty of 30 per cent was of more value than the other material.

"It was especially difficult to determine whether the wood contained in innumerable articles was in the form of chip or wood. Baskets, toiletts and hundreds of different descriptions of goods were consequently claimed by the importers to be dutiable at 30 per cent as chip, while the government contended that the material was not chip but wood or wood splits very fine and was therefore dutiable at 35 per cent.

"Fancy articles composed of paper card board ornamented more or less elaborately with braids composed of grass or straw, or of so-called chip, also resulted in much friction and litigation, the importers contending that such articles were dutiable at 30 per cent as manufacturers of straw, grass chip, respectively, while the government contended that they were dutiable at 35 per cent as manufacturers as paper.

Rubber.

"Hard rubber was provided for in paragraph 448 at 30 per cent. Then where hard rubber ended and Indian rubber began was another prolific source of controversy. Indian rubber dolls were provided for in paragraph 418 at 35 per cent while Indian rubber figures and other toys were excluded from that paragraph and made dutiable at 30 per cent under paragraph 449.

"The determination as to whether certain figures were dolls or not caused great disturbance in the trade and the question in many cases had to be determined by the courts—a requirement that left importers in doubt whether they would have to pay 30 or 35 per cent duty on an endless variety of Indian rubber toys.

Manufacturers Urge It.

"To avoid expensive litigation, delay and uncertainty in classification, leading importers urged that the duty on manufacturers of Indian rubber be made 25 per cent the same as toys, inasmuch as paragraphs 208, 407, 409 and 450 all imposed a duty of 25 per cent on substances of kindred nature of those which had to be combined with those enumerated in paragraph 449 to avoid future litigation, judged that the rate of duty should be made 35 per cent to accord with that specified in other paragraphs of the act. Had the numerous other paragraphs of the act provided a lower rate of duty than paragraph 463, I should have recommended that the rate be changed to conform thereto.

"After listening to the reasons I gave for the proposed change the finance committee unanimously approved of the recommendation and the conference committee before whom I made the same statement did the same, both house and senate agreeing that it would be the part of wisdom to avoid the continuance of the difficulties and disputes that had arisen between the government and the importers, due to the slight difference in the rates of duty between paragraphs 444, 463 and the other paragraphs mentioned. The wisdom of this change has been fully demonstrated by the fact that although there were many thousands of cases litigated under the act of 1897 for the reasons set forth under the present act there has not been a single case.

"Very truly yours,
"THAD S. SHARRETT'S."

Would Cause Loss.

"The committee found that if the desired uniformity was secured by making all the rates 30 per cent instead of 35 per cent this would have involved a loss of revenue—based upon the importations of 1908—of more than half a million dollars. Therefore, they decided to recommend the uniform rate of 35 per cent.

"It was not believed, nor do I now believe, that this rate was in any case excessive. Take the case of rubber manufacturers for instance. While it is true that 30 per cent was ample for protective purposes for a large class of goods the articles which were principally imported under these paragraphs were of a character which would not be burdened—even from the standpoint of a revenue tariff—by a duty of 35 per cent.

Manufacturers.

"The principal importations of rubber manufacturers covered by these various paragraphs were rubber dolls, rubber toys, druggists' supplies, fancy articles and novelties of various kinds. The imposition of an extra duty of 5 per cent would certainly not be a hardship to anyone interested in these articles. When we consider that the average rate upon all articles imported into the United States under the act of 1909, is in the neighborhood of 41 per cent certainly 35 per cent could not be an excessive rate in this case from any standpoint.

"With reference to the effect which these changes in rates have had on the importations and revenues, there are

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- Suits that were \$16.50 now - **\$8.25**
- Suits that were \$18.00 now - **\$9.00**
- Suits that were \$20.00 now - **\$10.00**
- Suits that were \$22.50 now - **\$11.25**
- Suits that were \$25.00 now - **\$12.50**
- Suits that were \$27.50 now - **\$13.75**
- Suits that were \$30.00 now - **\$15.00**
- Suits that were \$35.00 now - **\$17.50**

Missoula Mercantile Co.

ALDRICH ANSWERS SENATOR BRISTOW

(Continued From Page One.)

parts of the world. The charters of two of these companies were surrendered in 1909 for the purpose of simplifying the general organization of the business and reducing expenses and taxes.

"Neither the Intercontinental Rubber company nor any of its subsidiaries—and in this I include the two companies whose charters were surrendered in 1909—have now or ever had any interest whatever direct or indirect in any business except in the production of crude rubber in countries outside of the United States and in the sale and delivery of its crude rubber product in available markets here and abroad.

Not Interested.

"Neither the Intercontinental Rubber company nor any of its subordinate companies have ever had the slightest interest, direct or indirect, in the manufacture of any article covered by the change in rates on rubber manufactures in the paragraph alluded to, or otherwise; and neither the Intercontinental Rubber company, nor any of its subordinate companies have ever had any part in any combination, agreement, arrangement or understanding with any company or persons with reference to any manufactured product of rubber, or the price of any such product.

"The Intercontinental Rubber company is not in any sense nor of any kind—good or bad—a rubber trust. It was never—and no one connected with it was ever—in combination, or agreement, or arrangement with anybody with reference to the production, or control, or attempt to control the price of crude rubber, or of any manufacture of rubber. The only relations it ever had with any rubber manufacturing concern have been solely with reference to the sale and delivery of its crude products. It had at one time serious differences with a subordinate company of the United States Rubber company with reference to the quality of rubber delivered. These were afterward reconciled to mutual satisfaction; but the arrangement of these differences in a new contract involved no new subjects and is the only arrangement of any kind that we have ever had with this company or any other.

"With reference to my personal interest in the matter, I will say that for 10 years I have been greatly interested, financially and otherwise, in the development of plans for extracting crude rubber from shrubs, vines and trees by scientific, chemical and mechanical processes instead of the old-fashioned tapping method now in general use. The formation of the companies to which I have alluded was for the necessary organization of this business in various parts of the world. There has never been any attempt at concealment on my part or any reason for concealment of my deep interest in this development.

Successful.

"The measure of success which has been achieved by the young men who have had the management of the companies has been a source of satisfaction and of pride to me. Among other things accomplished is the yearly production in Mexico by our company from the guayule shrub of about 10,000,000 pounds of crude rubber, other companies producing in Mexico

about an equal amount. To accomplish this an entirely new value was established. Fifteen years ago, guayule shrub on the Mexican plains and the lands on which it grew were practically valueless. We expect in time to accomplish approximate results in other countries. I have no apology to make on my part (which has been unimportant) in this work. In the success attained, the tariff of the United States has played no part whatever.

"The price of crude rubber is fixed in the markets of the world by the inexorable law of supply and demand. It is governed by auction sales at London and Antwerp. The great increase in the price in recent years is undoubtedly owing to the enormous increased demand for automobile tires and for electric and other industrial uses with no corresponding increase in the available supply. The change in our tariff of 5 per cent on a very limited number of the manufactures of rubber in August, 1909, had as little to do with it as has the movement of the tides.

Prices Rise.

"In 1902 the price of fine para was 70 cents a pound; in April, 1910, the price had reached \$3 a pound, the present price being about \$2.40 a pound. If the price had been affected at all by the product of the Intercontinental Rubber company and other kindred rubber producing companies, it has been to impede the advance by furnishing a new source of supply.

"Crude rubber is and has been on the free list of our tariff and there has been no movement or suggestion from any source to place it on the dutiable list. If this important raw material, which competes with no domestic product should be placed upon the dutiable list the duty would clearly be added to the cost of the rubber to the manufacturer or the consumer and would not affect the producer whose prices would clearly be controlled by the market of the world.

"Of all the ridiculous statements made by the Kansas senator, none is quite so ridiculous as that in which he states that the Intercontinental Rubber company absolutely controls the crude rubber supply. The world's production of crude rubber in 1909 was about 175,000,000 pounds, of which the United States took about \$3,000,000 pound. The production of the Intercontinental Rubber company and its subordinate companies was about 10,000,000 pounds, or less than 6 per cent of the whole.

"As I have already stated, the Intercontinental Rubber company has never had any relations with the other producers and has never controlled or attempted to control, or influence either the output or price of crude rubber. Anyone who has ordinary intelligence must understand how futile such an attempt would have been if made.

The Depth of Ignorance.

"To say that the advance which took place from month to month in the price of crude rubber throughout the world from 70 cents in 1902 to \$3 in 1910 was owing to an unimportant increase of from 50 to 35 per cent in August, 1909, on importations affecting less than one per cent in value of the total product of rubber, displays a depth of ignorance which has rarely been reached. The claim that this same change of from 30 to 35 per cent enables a party who never had

any connection with anyone engaged in the manufacture of rubber, to advance the price of all rubber products, and to make enormous profits out of such advances, discloses a marvelous aptitude for fiction in narrative.

"As to the dividends paid by the Intercontinental Rubber company on its preferred stock in the early months of the present year, I will say that they were deferred payments of cumulative dividends; deferred as the earnings of the company had theretofore been used in the development of its business. Not one mill of the earnings from which dividends were paid could be attributed, and I have already stated, to the tariff of the United States, or of any change in tariff rates.

For Other Reasons.

"The change in the tariff on manufacturers of rubber, not otherwise provided for from 30 to 35 per cent in paragraph 463 was not made or recommended for protective purposes, or at the instance of, or for the benefit of any domestic manufacturer. It was made upon the recommendation of the treasury experts, solely for administrative purposes. The fact is that at the time the tariff act was passed the American manufacturers of foremost classes of goods had undisputed control of the American market and in a number of cases the domestic producer was able to export some portion of his product to other countries.

"The statistics submitted by the finance committee to the senate in April, 1909, showed a value of manufactured products in the country in 1904 of \$148,000,000 and exports of 1907 to the value of over \$5,000,000, while the imports of the classes referred to have never reached in value 1 1/2 per cent of the domestic production.

Imports Fall Off.

"There has been in recent years a considerable falling off in the value of the imports of rubber manufactures owing largely to the fact that the American manufacturers are steadily taking possession of the American market for automobile tires and to the fact that two of the most important makers of tires—Michelin and the Continental company—transferred their plants for the supply of their American market to the United States.

"When the tariff bill came in the finance committee it was stated to us by the treasury experts who had been assigned by the president to assist in the preparation of amendments, that it was extremely desirable that the rates of duty imposed by paragraphs 445, 476, 455 and 465 of the house bill on the miscellaneous manufacturers of various materials should be uniform with the rates imposed on similar manufactures in other parts of the bill.

"The statements of facts that led to the unanimous concurrence of the finance committee and the conference committee to recommend an increase in the duty on the articles named in paragraph 463 are clearly set forth in the following letter of Judge Sharrett to me.

Sharrett's Letter.

"United States Customs Service, Board of United States General Appraisers, 641 Washington Street, New York, July 21, 1910.—Hon. Nelson W. Aldrich, Chairman Committee on Finance, United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

"My Dear Sir: Under instructions from President Taft I was in Washington and gave such aid as I was

no statistics available that will enable us to measure it accurately. Importations are classified quite differently under the old laws and under the new. For instance, rubber toys were classified as manufactures of rubber under the old and as toys under the new, and this change alone accounts for a reduction in the importations of rubber manufactures under paragraph 463 and a greater increase in the importations returned under paragraph 431.

Increased Importation.

"It is the opinion of those best qualified to judge that there has been and will continue to be an increase in the importations of rubber manufactures of the classes I have described and a consequent increase in revenue. In the tariff discussions of other days, the advocates of protective policy have usually been called to meet in debate men with convictions on the subject—democrats of character, whose theories of government differed competently from those held by republican protectionists—men who had some regard for the accuracy of their statements and some knowledge of the subjects they discussed.

"Now, attacks upon a republican president and republican measures are led by men whose political existence depends upon their capacity—and to this there seems to be no limit—for misrepresentation and the ignorance of their adherents. Strangely enough, this little group of men—very small in number—has arrogated to itself the leadership of the progressives and its members prate about the treatment of the tariff as a moral question.

"Very truly yours,
"NELSON W. ALDRICH."

TABLES TURNED.

A good story is told of Congressman H. W. (Hank) Palmer of Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

"Hank" has the reputation of being quite a story teller, and is at all times ready to spring something funny at the other fellow's expense, but it happened that this time, Hank's joke was turned on himself.

It was back in the early 80s, when the scarf stick-pins were so much in style. Hank purchased a conspicuously large pin, the design of which was a potato bug, green in color. When asked what it was Hank would answer "An Irish potato bug."

It was up to United States Commissioner Honn of the same town, who is a typical German, and very unassuming, to turn the joke on the funny Hank, who had been having a lot of fun with his Irish potato bug, till he ran across the little commissioner who eyed the pin very closely, but failed to make any remark about it, fearing that Hank had some joke attached to it.

Honn was about to walk away, when Hank said to him: "Mr. Honn, what do you think of my new pin?"

Mr. Honn adjusted his heavy glasses, scrutinized the pin very closely, and asked: "Hank, vot iss dot?"

"That's an Irish potato bug," said Hank.

"Vell, vell," said the commissioner, "dots der largest bug I ever see on such a small potato."—National Monthly.

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that she must see him on an affair of great importance. She explained that she was most seriously disturbed. In fact, she was sadly given to vanity. That very morning, she confessed, she had looked in the glass and had yielded to the temptation of thinking herself pretty.

Pere Monsabre looked at her. "Is that all, my daughter?"

"That is all."

"Then go in peace, for to make a mistake is not a sin."—Lippincott's.