

VENUS SIGNALER, IF ANY, SAYS ABBOT

Smithsonian Scientist Says Life on Mars Is Highly Improbable. IS TOO FAR FROM THE SUN Messages Might Conceivably Come From Nearer Planet, He Says.

By the Associated Press. WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—If wireless messages are being received on the earth from some other planet, as suggested by William Marconi, it is not Mars sending the signals, but most probably Venus says Dr. C. G. Abbot, director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory and assistant secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

Dr. Abbot says that the mysterious wireless signals do come from another planet, but says if they do Mars is eliminated as a possibility because known conditions on that planet probably would not permit the existence of any form of living creature.

"In the first place," says Dr. Abbot, "on account of the greater distance nearly two and a half times farther from the sun reaches Mars than reaches the earth. It is probably nearly 100 degrees colder on the average on that distant planet than on this earth. Knowing that low temperatures occur on this earth in the course of the winter season, it will readily be realized that 100 degrees colder would mean.

No Water Vapor in Air. "In the second place, even if any form of life could withstand that degree of cold, it is definitely known by the investigations of Director Sampson of the U. S. Geological Survey that practically no water vapor in the atmosphere surrounding Mars, which fact crosses out the possibility of that planet's supporting any vegetation or other form of food for living creatures.

The polar caps which are seen on Mars may be either hoar frost from the minute traces of water vapor in the Martian atmosphere or what is the probable, frozen carbonic acid gas. The latter is reduced to impossibility by the fact that all living things are made up largely of different compounds of carbon. While the stellar spectrum shows that there is carbon on all heavenly bodies, the chemical combination of this element, which is as required for life, mostly require temperatures above freezing to prevent rigidity. So the extremely low temperatures on Mars, probably never higher than zero, would allow the carbon to combine to exist in a condition suitable for originating life.

Venus Much Like Earth. "The planet Venus, on the other hand, shows every condition necessary for the sustaining of life. It is nearly the same size as the earth and is even nearer the sun than the earth is. This apparently would make the climate considerably hotter on Venus, except for the fact that the atmosphere surrounding Venus is continuously cloudy. This universal cloudiness, by reflecting the radiation from the sun, reduces the temperature to about the same range as that experienced here on the earth. This cloudiness also shows a sufficient amount of water vapor to support vegetation and higher forms of life on the planet Venus.

"As regards the possibility of receiving wireless messages from another planet, Venus at its nearest is 25,000,000 miles away, whereas Mars is at least 50,000,000. "From these considerations it may be concluded that if any planet is trying to signal our earth it is nearly certain Mars. It can be proved definitely that Mars is unsuited for maintaining any conceivable form of life, while from the conditions prevailing on Venus there is every reason to believe that that planet may be populated by beings fairly similar to ourselves."

I. R. T. MEN SUBPENAED. Three Former Officials and Two Employees to Be Questioned. District Attorney Swann made it known last night that he had subpoenaed to three former officials of the Interborough, all of whom resigned last Friday, and to two other men who are still in the corporation's employ.

The former officials are David W. Rose, vice-president, his assistant, Manfred Palmer, and Frank J. DeLaney, formerly chief clerk of the purchasing department. R. R. McDonald and W. G. Strahl, the two other men whom subpoena were sent, will still be with the company. Both are superintendents of economy. Mr. Swann did not make known the matter upon which the wishes to question them.

GITLOW JURY IS COMPLETED. Making of Testimony in Anarchy Case Begins To-day. The taking of testimony will begin to-day in the trial of Benjamin Gitlow, formerly an Assemblyman, who is on trial for criminal anarchy in the criminal branch of the Supreme Court. The trial began a week ago, but the jury box was not filled until yesterday.

The indictment against Gitlow charges that he, James Larkin, Isaac R. Ferguson, Morris J. Gray and Harry Gold were responsible for the publication last July of a proclamation under the title "The Communist Manifesto" in a periodical known as the Revolutionary Age.

HELD FOR HOTEL ROBBERIES. Third Man Arrested in Philadelphia—\$20,000 of Loot Found. Edward Rice, accused of sharing in the booty obtained by the bandits who committed the \$50,000 hotel robberies in December, was arrested yesterday in Philadelphia by detectives Leaf and Quinn of the West 121st street station and brought here.

Rice was indicted after information had been given by his alleged companions Morris J. Gray and Harry Gold and Leaf, according to the detectives. About \$20,000 of the loot was recovered at 13 Bayard street.

STEAMSHIP STILL IN REEF. Cargo of the Kennebec Is Being Lightered Off Havana. HAVANA, Jan. 29.—The American steamship Kennebec, which went ashore in a reef at the entrance to the harbor early this morning, has not yet been floated. Tugs are lightering the vessel's cargo, a calm sea and fair weather favoring the work.

According to shipping men, it will be difficult to salvage the steamship. They point out that in her present position a North wind would prove disastrous.

SMITH ASKS FIFTEEN MILLIONS FOR ROADS

Also Requests Sale of \$10,000,000 in Bonds. Special Dispatch to The Sun. ALBANY, Jan. 29.—Asking the Legislature to allow the Highway Department \$15,000,000 for next summer to maintain State roads and to permit the sale of the remaining \$10,000,000 of the second \$50,000,000 bond issue for new highway construction Gov. Smith, in a special message to the Legislature to-day, made a plea for the construction of permanent roads, and suggested that hereafter all road work be done with money appropriated directly from the State Treasury instead of issuing bonds.

"We must build a more permanent type of highway, even though the initial cost be greater," the Governor said. "I am assured by men who have given thorough study to highway problems that if the policy of permanent highway construction is adhered to, the maintenance charges will decrease in spite of the fact that the mileage of improved roads has increased."

Gov. Smith's message also asks the Legislature to make an appropriation of \$5,237,850 to be put with a like sum given by men who have given thorough study to highway problems that if the policy of permanent highway construction is adhered to, the maintenance charges will decrease in spite of the fact that the mileage of improved roads has increased."

Another recommendation by the Governor is that counties hereafter share in the cost of maintenance of the State highways.

ICE 14 INCHES THICK; YIELDS RICH HARVEST

146,500 Tons Taken From Hudson and Small Streams. Special Dispatch to The Sun. KINGSTON, N. Y., Jan. 29.—Ice harvesters working along the Hudson River and on smaller streams between Albany and this town report an excellent crop of the finest quality. Already many of the big houses have been filled. The cutters say the average thickness of the river ice is fourteen inches.

The Knickerbocker Ice Company, one of the largest companies operating, has filled its Kingsport plant with 15,000 tons. In the Roundout house it has packed 15,000 tons. Other houses of the company hold a total of 70,000 tons. Many of the smaller harvesters have also done well. It is reported that the total amount of ice stored by them is said to be more than 42,500 tons.

Individuals who own barges have filled them at Roundout Creek and left for New York city, where they will be sold to the various companies. The cutters are being paid from \$4 to \$5 a day.

BRITISH COMBINE TO START AIR LINE HERE

Semi-Monthly 60 Hour Service Promised in Spring. LONDON, Jan. 29.—Four of the largest aviation firms in England are negotiating with regard to a combine with the eventual purpose of development of a transatlantic airship service.

It is said to be the purpose of the combine to purchase all airships which the Government does not require for the army and navy. Experiments have been arranged for the early spring, when short trips to Scandinavia and Holland will be attempted, after which an endeavor will be made to put into effect a bi-weekly service to New York, the voyage taking sixty hours.

MEXICAN CLAIMS \$13,189,716. Represent Damages in Revolutions of Last Decade.

EL PASO, Tex., Jan. 29.—Claims for \$13,189,716, Mexican, representing damages alleged to have been suffered during the Mexican revolutions of the last decade, have been filed with the Mexican indemnity commission.

These figures are taken from a report recently rendered by the chairman of the committee, Gen. Estaban B. Calderon, to the Secretary of the Treasury and Public Credit, and quoted in Excelsior of Mexico city.

MARTENS TALE DENIED AGAIN. Rubber Co. Did Not Seek Trade From Russian Soviets.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Jan. 29.—The Fisk Rubber Company through its export manager, J. B. Maus, denied to-day the statement of Ludwig C. A. K. Martens, who, testifying yesterday before a Congressional committee, named that company as one of many devious of entering into trade relations with the Soviet Government.

DETZER CASE VERDICT FOUND. Court-Martial Only Five Minutes in Reaching Agreement.

After listening to the summations of attorneys occupying the entire day the court-martial sitting in the case of Capt. Karl W. Detzer went into closed session shortly before 6 o'clock last night, and reached a decision in five minutes. The verdict was not made public. The court-martial consisted of a panel of Capt. Detzer at Le Mans, France, and occupied twenty-nine trial days.

NAME WOMAN TO CONVENTION. Ohio Democrats Break Precedent for National Delegates.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Jan. 29.—Mrs. A. P. Pyke of Lakewood, Ohio, chairman of the Women's Democratic Committee of Cuyahoga County, is the first woman named as a delegate to a national political convention.

WOOD'S ADHERENTS SOUNDING LEADERS

Anxious to Find Out How Roof Crane, Penrose, Perkins and Hert Now Stand. GOULD IN CONFERENCES Military Candidates Managers Meets Metropolitan District Politicians.

Friends of Major-Gen. Leonard Wood, whose business it is to make a daily appraisal of the condition of his boom for the Republican nomination for the Presidency, are doing not a little worrying over the attitude of certain well known men in the party.

They would like to have them all with Wood, but if that cannot be, they are anxious to find out just where the sympathies of these men are. Among those whose position is pushing the Wood leaders are W. Murray Crane of Massachusetts, Senator Boies Penrose of Pennsylvania, A. T. Hert of Kentucky, Elihu Root of New York, George W. Perkins of New York and Frank H. Hitchcock, who was chairman of the National Committee in 1918.

These have been many surmises as to who was favored by former Senator Crane, but there are few who pretend to know. The Wood leaders are rather reconciled to believe that he will not desert for Wood, at least unless he should discover that the nomination of the General was inevitable. But they would like to know what other candidate his influence will be exerted for.

Before he retired from the Wood movement John T. King had been trying to swing Senator Penrose into the camp. He had not succeeded, and so far as known none of the present Wood leaders has been near the Senator, who has been seriously ill at his home in Philadelphia.

It was stated that former Senator Root's position in the pre-convention campaign had not been fixed and that Mr. Perkins could not be said to be any nearer the Wood candidacy than he was two weeks ago.

"I confess I do not know whether the General will resign or not," said Representative Norman J. Gould, Eastern manager, last night. "I know that I am seeking opinions on the advisability of it from every one to whom I talk."

Mr. Gould said he did not know just what significance, if any, there might be in the sudden withdrawal of several of the "favorite sons," but he did feel that naturally it would help the chances of George Wood in such States as New York, New Jersey, New York and Connecticut leaders. He goes Sunday to Chicago, where he will be in conference with Gen. Wood, Fred Stanley of Kansas, and James J. McTraw of Oklahoma on Monday. The latter has not been able to devote as much time to pushing the Wood movement in the Southern central States as he had hoped, because, it is said, his enemies are trying to undermine him in his own State.

Former Governor E. C. Stokes of New Jersey sent the following despatch to Gen. Wood yesterday: "At a joint conference of the members of the Republican State Committee and the county chairmen of New Jersey, held yesterday at Trenton, your name was received with great applause and was practically the only one mentioned for President. It was the only name for which any individual declared, and the applause showed a large majority of the conference was for you."

William P. Verdon of Hoboken, one of the Johnson leaders, asserted that the Wood movement there was part of a deliberate plan to elect Wood to the Presidency. The Leonard Wood League of Maine reported yesterday the following organization: Member of the Wood national committee, Harold E. Sewall, honorary chairman, Gov. Carl E. Miliken, Augusta; William T. Cobb, Rockland; Frank E. Guernsey, Dover; State chairman, Charles B. Carter, Lewiston; secretary, Daniel S. Dexter, Lewiston.

ASSERTS DEMOCRATS RELY ON CHECK BOOK

W. B. Thompson Attacks Great Propaganda Payroll. "This next campaign is not going to be won with check books, at least not by the Republicans," declared Col. James Boyce Thompson, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the Republican National Committee, yesterday. He was speaking at a meeting of the New York State division of the committee, of which former Senator William J. Tully is head, held in the Union League Club.

The ways and means committee has been organized to furnish the sustenance for the national campaign and the Colonel, therefore, is an expert on campaign expenses.

The Colonel referred to the elaborate organization for gathering money that the Democrats have established in Washington.

"It is as if it should be that the monthly payroll in the office is already \$50,000; I know your answer and I ask this: Is that political organization or is it propaganda? Is it democracy or is it a bold attempt to throw back the waters of disaster with a dike of dollars?"

"Whatever it is, what does it mean? It means this, that from a dollar and cents standpoint certain men feel that they have got to win the next election. They don't care what it is going to cost them—twenty million, twenty-five million, thirty million, any sum at all. They have got to win."

"The Republicans wanted contributions from the rich and from the poor, the speaker said, but no man would be allowed to contribute more than \$1,000. Referring to Chairman Hays of the national committee, Col. Thompson asserted: "I can think of no better work for any man to do these days than to uphold the hands of that virile, energetic, tireless and resourceful fighting man from Indiana."

TO ORGANIZE JOHNSON CLUB. Meeting Called To-night at the Hotel Pennsylvania.

Definite activity on behalf of the candidacy of Senator Hiram W. Johnson for the Republican nomination for President will start to-night at a meeting to organize a New York "Johnson Club." It will be held on the mezzanine floor at the Hotel Pennsylvania, where Angus McSweeney, Eastern manager for the Senator, has established headquarters.

Mr. McSweeney said last night that many persons had called at headquarters to offer their services in the campaign.

PAGEANT OF EDEN TOO TRUE TO LIFE

Vanity Cases Said to Have Held Costumes. Special Dispatch to The Sun. SALZM, Mass., Jan. 29.—A pageant entitled "The Garden of Eden," staged by a group of women in Lynn, Mass., last night, was historically correct to such an extent that the North Shore was literally "scandalized" to-day.

Although the performance was strictly correct and the costumes were in every way correct, it was rumored in their vanity bags. About 200 women were in the select audience and the pageant was stated to be a burlesque on the domestic troubles of Adam and Eve. Some who attended expressed indignation at the "provincial criticism."

"Would you have Adam and Eve portrayed in woolsens and a set of furs?" asked one of the women. "It's really too ridiculous to discuss."

But it was discussed, just the same.

RICE, PROMOTER, GETS THREE YEARS IN JAIL

Theft From Ohio Man Halts Notorious Career. George Graham Rice, whose real name is Simon Herzog, breaker and oil thief, was sentenced to three years in Sing Sing prison for three years by Judge James T. Malone in General Sessions, where he was convicted by a jury a week ago on a charge of grand larceny. The indictment charged Rice with the theft of \$721 from Rudolph W. Hartmann of Mansfield, Ohio, in January, 1918, the money having been tendered for the purchase of ten shares of American Car and Foundry stock.

Isadore Wasservogel, who defended Rice, went later before Supreme Court Justice Edward B. Finch and obtained an order to show cause why a certificate of reasonable doubt should not be issued. Argument is set for February 3, when John T. Deoling, assistant district attorney, will appear for The People.

Five other indictments, charging grand larceny were found in this county against Rice. Efforts were made to get him for the ten years, but he was remanded to the Tombs pending the argument before the Supreme Court.

TWO SENTENCED TO SING SING

Negro and Tailor Were Convicted of Holdup and Robbery. Owen Lopp, a negro, and Harry Heffelfield, a white, were sentenced to Sing Sing yesterday by Judge William H. Adair in General Sessions for their participation in the holdup and robbery of the residence of Mrs. Frances Walton at 25 East Eleventh street last September. Lopp, who was declared to be the brains of the burglar gang, was given fifteen years in prison and Heffelfield from five to ten years.

Mrs. Walton employed Lopp as a porter, and a few days later he admitted Heffelfield and Nellie Pliginsk, who has since been sent to Sing Sing for ten years for the crime, into her home. They bound and gagged Mrs. Walton and ransacked the house, carrying away money, jewelry and clothing. The negro was subsequently described by Mrs. Walton, and his picture, found in the Rookery Gallery, led to his arrest and conviction.

TO DECIDE DUFFY CASE TO-DAY

Late Mayor Gaynor Called Him Victim of Police Persecution. A jury before Supreme Court Justice Kapper in Brooklyn will decide to-day whether George B. Duffy is guilty of grand larceny and burglary. Duffy, in 1908, was declared by the late Mayor Gaynor, then a Supreme Court Justice, to be a victim of police persecution. At 6 o'clock last night Mirabeau L. Towns, counsel for the indicted, declared that he was summing up, and the case was adjourned until to-day. Mr. Towns declared it to be the insistence of detectives that led John A. Kaas, a saloonkeeper of 8652 Third avenue, South Brooklyn, to press charges against Duffy. He is accused of having three cases of liquor from Kaas's store.

Mr. Towns said that the evidence indicated conclusively that Duffy was not near the saloon when the crime was committed. He said that Attorney Voss will sup up this morning for the people.

NO GUNS HERE, SAYS COURT. Counsel of I. W. W. Told to Leave Revolver With Clerk.

MONTICELLO, Wash., Jan. 29.—George F. Vanderveer, counsel for the defense in the trial of eleven alleged I. W. W. charged with murder in connection with the Centerville massacre, was ordered to-day by Judge John M. Wilson to deposit his revolver hereafter in the office of the County Clerk before entering court.

HUNGARY TO ELECT KING. National Assembly Will Choose Monarch, Says Premier.

BUDAPEST, Jan. 29.—Hungary will be a monarchy after the national assembly chosen immediately after the National Assembly convenes, said Premier Huszar, speaking at a women's gathering yesterday.

LEVERHULME OUT FOR DRY. Titled Manufacturer Sees Way to Pay Quickly Debt to U. S.

PLYMOUTH, England, Jan. 29.—Lord Leverhulme, British manufacturer, who arrived here to-day from a visit of two months in the United States, declared himself in favor of the adoption of prohibition in Great Britain. He said that in this manner enough money could be saved to pay Britain's indebtedness to America in five years.

BUTLER DISSECTS WILSON'S POLICIES

Chief Speaker at McKinley Dinner in Cleveland Compares Two Presidents. MUST LEAVE THE CLOUDS Nation Warned to Return to Earth and Banish Bolshevik Temptations. Special Dispatch to The Sun. CLEVELAND, Jan. 29.—To the Republican party is left the task of repairing the entire machinery of the Government, Nicholas Murray Butler of Columbia University, the principal speaker to-night at the annual celebration of the anniversary of the birth of William McKinley, told members of the Tippecanoe Club of Cleveland. In his address he picked apart the Administration and held the pieces up for ridicule and criticism. He ended with a ringing appeal to the youth of America to "come over into a camp whose army of occupation is dedicated to liberty, to order, to law, to justice and to freedom."

It is left for the Republican party to slow genuine progress in dealing with the problems that confront the country, Dr. Butler declared. He expressed his confidence that the organization is capable of doing just this.

Taking up the international situation, first he said: "By frank and fair dealing and by maintaining our traditional policy of urging the substitution of force for force in the settlement of international differences, we must repair the damage that has been done by the grave blunders and the purely rhetorical diplomacy of the present Administration. We must regain the confidence of other nations in our common sense and in our regard for the real facts of national and international life. We must come down from the clouds and walk on the earth."

"Whatever form the society of nations may take, America's part in it must be that of an independent, self-controlled and cooperating equal. We have no desire to dominate and we have no intention of being dominated. Least of all do we propose to allow our national policies to be put in commission, or to take any part in an adventure into international socialism. The American people are ready to act with broad-mindedness, with sympathy and with generosity in helping their sister nations and in maintaining the peace of the world. As McKinley himself said, nearly twenty years ago: 'Isolation is no longer possible or desirable.'"

"Second, as to the domestic situation. Here the controlling questions are economic and industrial. Their solution involves a large increase in productive industry under just and humane conditions, greater economy and thrift, a credit system, a drastic reform in our methods of taxation, the development of a national character and a sense of antagonism between Government and business and a quick reduction in the amount of public expenditures. All these are in a large sense matters of

BACK FROM HAVANA, FALLS VICTIM TO D. T.'S

Chicagoan Terrorizes Ship After Wet "Vacation." William Masters, who gave his home address as 36 Ellis avenue, Chicago, recently went to Havana on a vacation to be unfettered by the prohibition amendment. He sailed for this port by the Ward liner Mexico, which arrived yesterday, and died in quarantine of diphtheria pneumonia, after having terrorized the galley force several hours. He went about the ship with an iron pin "looking for an enemy" until he was persuaded by Herbert P. Cleary, a steward, to give up the weapon and go to the ship's hospital. He sneaked out of the hospital and going into the galley got a carving knife and a cleaver and drove out everybody except a boy and John Valavaleva, second baker.

Cleary got a rope to lasso Masters, and when the latter saw Cleary coming he turned and fled in the direction of the second baker, who jumped and grabbed Masters as he tripped in the doorway. He was bound and taken to the hospital, where he died early yesterday morning as the liner entered quarantine. Although listed as a bachelor, Masters is said to have two daughters in Chicago. He was 42 years old.

MOB WHIPS A JURYMEN. After Dip in Mud He Agrees to Convict Negro of Slaying.

MONROE, La., Jan. 29.—Because a jurymen failed to agree to a verdict of guilty in the case of Alvin Calhoun, negro, alleged confessed slayer of N. E. Arnold, a young white farmer, a mob converted into detective bureaus and offices of investigation. Even if these armies of Government ferrets succeeded in stopping all alleged profiteering it is doubtful whether they would not eat up more of the people's substance than is consumed by the swindling they are supposed to unshrink.

Mr. Beveridge attacked the Wilson policy in Russia as "stupid," and held there was no need for the sacrifice of American soldiers there. He said the Mexican problem must be "cleaned up," and that the Administration had perished

LEAGUE NEXT ISSUE, BEVERIDGE AYERS

Former Senator Tells Detroit Republicans Challenge Is Accepted. WILSON POLICIES 'STUPID' Says Democrats Look Upon Business Men as Criminals at Heart. Special Dispatch to The Sun. DETROIT, Mich., Jan. 29.—Former Senator Albert J. Beveridge, addressing the Detroit Republican Club here to-night, promised the Republican party would take President Wilson at his word and make an issue of the League of Nations covenant in the fall campaign. He said the league covenant is not a treaty but a constitution of a new international government, and that President Wilson had said this was so. After pointing out the dangers of future wars involved in this "international arrangement" Mr. Beveridge said:

"Mr. Wilson refuses to permit this constitution of an international super-government to be so altered as to keep America out of controversies as to the meaning of that constitution. He now insists, what he has denied hitherto, that the people shall vote upon it. The Republican party accepts that challenge. The issue has been thrust upon us. We take up the gauntlet of battle and will fight to the end for the security of the American nation."

"Had Mr. Wilson from the first recognized the right of the people to pass on this proposal peace would have been established long ago and the wretched predicament into which the league covenant has thrown us would never have been created."

Mr. Beveridge predicted the Republican party has already won the next Presidential election, finding sweeping revulsion throughout the country to the Wilson Administration, not only on the score of the League of Nations, but in the mediation of the Government in Labor problems and the establishment of what virtually amounts to an espionage system with respect to business.

"The Democratic Administration," he said, "has built up an arrogant and insolent bureaucracy that rules American business with eccentric, unintelligent and ruthless tyranny, and has devised involved regulations, rules and restrictions upon the theory that business is, in its nature, a crime and business men are criminals at heart."

"Commercial America is now under an espionage as high handed, bigoted and ignorant as that of the overthrown empires of Russia. Swarms of Government spies infest this free land. Certain executive departments have been converted into detective bureaus and offices of investigation. Even if these armies of Government ferrets succeeded in stopping all alleged profiteering it is doubtful whether they would not eat up more of the people's substance than is consumed by the swindling they are supposed to unshrink."

Mr. Beveridge attacked the Wilson policy in Russia as "stupid," and held there was no need for the sacrifice of American soldiers there. He said the Mexican problem must be "cleaned up," and that the Administration had perished

FREIGHT TIED UP IN BOSTON. Strike of 1,200 Handlers Forces Shipments in Carload Lots.

BOSTON, Jan. 29.—It was impossible to-day to ship freight in lots of less than a carload through terminals of the Boston and Albany and the Boston and Maine railroads because of the strike of 1,200 freight handlers. Carload shipments were not affected, being loaded or unloaded by the shippers or the consignees.

Both the rail terminals and piers of the Boston and Albany and Boston and Maine railroads were affected by the strike. The terminals of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad were operated as usual, the freight handlers' union of that road having refused to follow the workers of the other roads.

The tie-up on the docks has interfered with the work of unloading several steamships.

PALMER IN CITY, BUT REFUSES TO SAY WHY

Attorney-General Meets Secret Service Men Hurriedly. An air of unusual mystery surrounded the arrival in this city last night of Attorney-General A. Mitchell Palmer. He stepped from a Pennsylvania train from Washington at 9:30 o'clock and hurried to the Biltmore in a taxicab. The astonishment his arrival caused was equalled only by his own astonishment that his arrival was known.

Immediately upon reaching the Biltmore, Mr. Palmer was joined by a group of secret service and Department of Justice agents. There was a conference and then the operatives, with the exception of two men who remained with the Attorney-General and accompanied him to his room, left the hotel.

"I am simply here on a case," said Mr. Palmer, when asked about his visit. "The case I refer to will start to-morrow. Other than that I can say nothing now."

It was suggested to one of the secret service men that the Government might be about to take action against traffickers in Liberty bonds. They said they knew nothing about such a move. Mr. Palmer was non-committal on that subject.

The meeting at the Biltmore between Mr. Palmer and the operatives had been arranged hastily. It was plainly to be seen, they conferred in the lobby with a cordon of bell boys to guard their words from the curious.

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