

Borah Clears Track for Harding; Drops World Meet Project

Idaho Senator Withholds Economics Parley Plan When Told President Already Has Put Out Feelers Among European Nations to Learn Advisability of Method; May Revive It Later.

Washington, Dec. 29.—The fight over the proposal of Senator Borah that President Harding call an economic conference came to a sensational climax in the senate Friday when the Idaho senator announced that he would withhold his proposed amendment to the naval appropriation bill on administration assurances given by Senator Watson, of Indiana, that the president already was sounding out the situation in a way which might lead to some movement which would adjust the conditions prevailing in Europe.

Senator Borah made known his decision during the debate after Senator Watson, one of the administration spokesmen who was instrumental in lining up the senate majority in opposition to the proposal, appealed to the Idaho senator not to press his proposed resolution for substantially the same reasons outlined in President Harding's letter Thursday.

Senator Watson disclosed that administration "feelers" had been made as to European policy and referred to the statement in President Harding's letter that it was necessary first to ascertain whether overtures for a conference would be "welcome."

"And I go so far as to say," said the Indiana senator, "that that has been done and that the things that have been undertaken may, if successfully continued, go so far as to result in the holding of a conference in the future."

Borah Seeks Facts

Senator Watson then suggested that Senator Borah withhold his amendment on the ground that the administration's course would be embarrassed.

Senator Borah asked whether the administration's negotiations were for the purpose of calling "this conference."

"No, not negotiations," Senator Watson replied. "What I said was that 'feelers' had been put out; that the foreign nations were being sounded with a view to finding out whether the United States may be helpful or that in my opinion, it might lead to a conference."

Many Vessels in Danger When Gales Whip Water Into Fury; Wide Distress.

New York, Dec. 29.—Gales Friday continued to whip the north Atlantic into mountains and canyons, causing fears for at least two vessels, delaying scores and sending a few smaller craft, crashing into the shore.

The chief anxiety was felt for the freighter Bretonia, which sailed for New York from St. Pierre on December 12, and the German freighter Heinrich Kayser, which last departed when she was out on a S O S, 500 miles off Cape May, on December 6.

In addition, a flutter ran through marine circles when the shipping board reported a bad list to starboard by a later message stated she had righted a little. Meanwhile, the coast guard cutter Kickapoo put out to her assistance from Cape May.

The most important news reported was that of the schooner Anne L. Spindler, out of Yarmouth, N. S., which struck near Provincetown, Mass., sending her crew of six ashore in a breeches buoy. An unaccounted for crew member was carrying a cargo of liquor.

Shipping offices in New York, Halifax and other ports were bombarded with wireless messages from liners reporting delays caused by mid-winter storms.

The Berengaria, bearing Ambassador Harvey back to Washington from London, was one of the vessels held up. Due here Friday, she reported that she still was 817 miles off this port and did not expect to reach Quarantine until Sunday morning.

Waters were lashing the sides of the giant majestic, carrying the British finance minister to the United States and Emile Com, proponent of auto-suggestion, bound here for a lecture.

Nearly 25 steamers which crept into Provincetown harbor, were being held up by the gales.

Prince Gelasio Caetani, the new Italian ambassador, presented his credentials to President Harding.

N. Y. SOCIETY MEN INDICTED IN RUM PROBE

Bachelors' Dinner Led to Investigation by Prohibition Agents.

Thirteen Accused When Grand Jury Acts on Evidence of Sleuths.

New York, Dec. 29.—Investigation by a federal grand jury into a bachelors' dinner at the fashionable Racquet and Tennis club on Park avenue, at which liquor was alleged to have flowed freely, Friday brought indictment of 13 men, including four members of the La Montague family, prominent in society.

Two indictments were returned, charging a conspiracy to violate the Volstead and internal revenue acts, through which approximately 30,000 gallons of assorted liquors were alleged to have been illegally sold. Some of those indicted also were charged with having forged liquor permits and other papers.

In a statement made public in connection with the indictments, United States Attorney Hayward asserted that his office had followed the trail of alleged bootlegging even though it led to select circles and exclusive places, and charged that liquor had been sold on a wholesale scale to exclusive clubs and the homes of the wealthy.

Judge Thanks Jury.

Federal Judge Knox read the indictments on which two other juries—one in the court of general sessions in New York and the other in Brooklyn—had handed up preliminary indictments against the defendants.

The chief justice of the court expressed on the ground that it was ineffective and wasteful of public funds.

In discharging the federal jury, Judge Knox thanked its members for the breaking up of the conference, a task which he had "brought people in high walks of life to a realization that they cannot violate the Volstead act with impunity any more than they can other provisions of the constitution."

The principal defendants, according to Mr. Hayward, were Montague La Montague and his three younger brothers, Rene, William and Morgan. Rene has long been in the public eye as one of the foremost American polo players.

U. S. Rum Sleuths to Make Montana Legislature Dry

Helena, Dec. 29.—Efforts to make Helena dry during the legislative session, which begins Monday, will be made by the federal prohibition officers, according to John H. Metcalf, director for Montana. Members of the assembly will be on the plane of all other citizens in the eyes of the federal authorities.

The director says that during the session two years ago conditions in Helena with reference to prohibition were bad.

Mr. Metcalf suspects that a goodly supply of liquor has been brought to the capital city in preparation for the visitors who are to attend the first 60 days of the new year.

Bernhardt Promises Early Return to Stage; Is Interviewed

Paris, Dec. 29.—By The Associated Press.—"Tell the American people that I shall return to the stage next Wednesday night," said Sarah Bernhardt to The Associated Press Friday evening, in the course of the first interview she has granted since her collapse during the rehearsal of a new play two weeks ago.

The dramatic actress showed great improvement Friday, having been able to have luncheon with the members of her household in the dining room. Her physicians declared that she had found no evidence of organic disease or chronic illness and were of the belief that the collapse of Madame Bernhardt was due only to over-exertion and strain.

"Tell my American friends," Madame Bernhardt added, "that I am far from dead or dying, as some of the reports would have it, and that this rest, as I choose to call it, probably will give me a new lease on life."

Woman Is Charged With Murder; Killed Man in Her Apartment

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 29.—O. L. Black, automobile sales manager, was killed without justification by Mrs. Olive L. Jones, divorcee, in her apartment here last Sunday night, according to the verdict of a coroner's jury late Friday. Mrs. Jones was held to the grand jury on a charge of murder.

The coroner, policemen and neighbors, on whose testimony the verdict was returned, were unanimous in their belief that the body was found showed no signs of a struggle.

Mrs. Jones was quoted by one witness as having declared that Black said just before the tragedy:

"I am through with you."

PERSHING IN EVENING DRESS



Civilian garb for General Pershing has been growing more and more a common sight, but here is the first occasion the camera caught him in evening dress. He is shown with Mrs. Potter Palmer (left) and Mrs. John Borden at a Chicago charity ball.

U. S. NOT TO TAKE PART IN PREMIERS' MEETING AT PARIS

Paris, Dec. 29.—(By The Associated Press.)—Persistent reports that the United States would participate in some form in next week's conference of the inter-allied premiers were definitely eliminated Friday upon receipt of news that the United States government would take no part in the meeting.

Although it is not believed the state department at Washington has made any statement on the matter, interested American sources were informed that there did not seem to be the slightest chance of American participation.

There was some suggestion, however, and the probability that this would be the breaking up of the conference, certainly followed by French seizures in Germany, might provoke some eleventh-hour step by the United States.

Reports that Wilhelm Cuno, the German chancellor, intended to startle the premiers' conference with definite proposals for a four-power pact, which would guarantee the security of France and the present French-German frontiers, reached reparations officials here Friday.

What action the entente nations will take on the plea of Armenia for national home in Turkey probably will be decided Friday morning. At this time the delegates of France, Great Britain and Italy will consider the petition which the Armenians presented to the conference a few days ago.

No progress was made Friday by the sub-committee on minorities, before which the American appeal was presented when general question of amnesty were under discussion. The justice to whom the amnesty clause of the proposed treaty was submitted, reported they were unable to agree, as both the Turks and Greeks had interjected too many controversial political considerations.

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Wills \$200,000 to U. S. as Fund to Build Summer White House

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 29.—Provisions for the erection of a summer White House for the use of the president of the United States are made in the will of J. Wilson Leakin, lawyer. The will was probated Friday in the orphans' court here.

For the purchase of land and the erection of the summer White House, \$200,000 is left to the United States of America. The site is to be within automobile driving distance of Washington. If the legacy is not accepted by congress within 18 months after Mr. Leakin's death, the \$200,000 is to become part of the residue of the estate.

Free State Executes 2 More for Having Guns in Possession

Dublin, Dec. 29.—(By The Associated Press.)—Two more men were put to death Friday as enemies of the Irish Free State. Their names were given in the official account of the execution, which took place at Kilkenny, as Phelan and Murphy.

The official report says they were arrested December 15 and were found guilty of possessing arms and ammunition.

OIL FIRM ENLARGES 2 More for Having Guns in Possession

Denver, Colo., Dec. 29.—Amended articles of incorporation filed in Cheyenne Friday change the name of the Inland Oil company to the Continental Oil Producing company and increase the capital stock from \$2,000,000 to \$8,000,000, according to a dispatch to the News here. Former officers of the Inland will act as officers of the Continental Oil Producing company. It is expected that part of the increase in capital will be used to compensate the Continental for cash advanced for operations in Wyoming, particularly in the Salt Creek field, the dispatch states.

KLANS FROGS OWNER ROUGE; QUIZ STARTED

Probe to Reveal Whether Murderers Are Members of Ku Klux.

State Organization to Use Ouster If Slayers Known as Members.

New Orleans, La., Dec. 29.—(By The Associated Press.)—Ku Klux Klan chiefs of Louisiana met here Friday to consider action to be taken in regard to reports that klansmen were responsible for the Morehouse kidnaping and murders.

A reporter of a New Orleans newspaper was present at the meeting and at the conclusion of the conference he was authorized to announce that agents of the Klan would be sent to Morehouse to investigate what had occurred on August 24, the date of the kidnaping.

If the Klan of Morehouse parish is in any way responsible for the murders of Watt Daniels and Thomas Richards, the charter of that Klan will be lifted and the Klan outlawed," it was announced.

"If any individual members of the Klan are found guilty of these murders, not only will they be outlawed from the Klan but every bit of power the Klan has will be used to help obtain convictions in the criminal courts of the state."

The story told by United States department of justice agents that members of the Klan in black hoods formed the "wrecking crew" for the kidnapers and murderers of Daniels and Richards, is absurd. There is no such organization in any part of the Ku Klux Klan or in any of its degrees.

The chief klansman scouted the tale that Clarence Darrow, "or any prominent lawyer had been retained by the Klan to fight in the defense of the men who might be charged with the murders."

"The Klan has raised no defense fund nor has it made any defense appropriation," he said.

Governor Parker has charged that Dr. B. M. McKoin, under arrest at Baltimore under a murder charge, was a member of the Ku Klux Klan. Attorney General Cummings said McKoin had been implicated in many mob activities, according to the evidence.

McKoin has denied he was a klansman. Former Deputy Sheriff T. J. Barnard, the first man arrested in the case, also has denied he was a klansman.

SUSPENSE AT BASTROP.

Bastrop, La., Dec. 29.—With the hearing on the open hearing but one week away, the heavy hand of the law, which has already struck twice, was still upraised Friday night over those designated for arrest in connection with the Morehouse kidnaping and murders.

The citizens were anxiously waiting the passing of time which would reveal the identity of those marked. The nature of confessions in which 35 men were said to be implicated was also the subject of much speculation.

There was no intimation of when the arrests promised by the state would be made.

While a deputy sheriff armed with a carefully prepared requisition was en route to the open hearing, plans were being made for the state of Louisiana in connection with a charge of murder with the rebel and masked activities of last August, his friends in this case were reported to be considering steps to provide him with a heavy escort after he reaches Louisiana in the event he is returned.

McKoin Case Delayed

Baltimore, Dec. 29.—Further action in the case of Dr. B. M. McKoin, arrested here Tuesday for the murder of Watt Daniels and Thomas Richards, was delayed last August by a white-robed mob at Mer Rouge, La., is not expected until next Tuesday. At that time, it is believed, Governor Albert Ritchie will act on the requisition for Dr. McKoin, preferred by Louisiana authorities.

Dr. McKoin, a former mayor of Mer Rouge, was charged with the murder of Daniels and Richards Wednesday on an affidavit of the sheriff of Morehouse parish.

Dr. McKoin stated in an interview at the city jail Friday that he "would rather die forty times than be taken back to Mer Rouge." He predicted that there "would be more bloodshed than ever" if he ever put his foot on Mer Rouge soil again.

Dr. McKoin expressed his conviction that his life would not be safeguarded there despite the presence of troops. The jail at Mer Rouge, he said, was a one-story, dilapidated brick building outside the town. The lawless element there, he said, would not stop at anything. He had had personal dealings with them and knew that there "would be many who would lay down their lives just to see him hanged."

Governor Parker, Attorney General Coo and all the officials there, he added, "cannot—if they tell the truth—guarantee that my life would be spared in that town."

HUGHES OFFERS PLAN FOR SETTLEMENT OF REPARATIONS WIDDLE

Independent Commission Composed of American Business Men and Appointed by U. S. Govern- ment, Advocated by Secretary of State as Fail- ure of Paris Premiers' Meet Is Talked.

New Haven, Conn., Dec. 29.—A suggestion that an independent commission of men competent in financial affairs would accomplish more than a general international conference toward solution of the European reparations tangle, was put forward by Secretary Hughes here Friday night in the first public pronouncement on the economic crisis to come from responsible officials of the administration at Washington.

The secretary, who spoke before the American Historical association, added that he had "no doubt" distinguished Americans would be willing to serve on such a commission, which he said might well be kept free from any responsibility to foreign offices or any duty to obey political instructions.

Once advantage had been taken of the opportunities thus afforded, he said, "the avenues of American helpfulness cannot fail to open hopefully."

Referring to suggestions that the United States assume the role of arbiter in the reparations dispute, Mr. Hughes said a sufficient answer to that was the fact "that we have not been asked." He went on to say he did not believe this government should take such a burden of responsibility.

Throughout his discussion, the secretary recognized that the question of German reparations lay at the root of any economic settlement. The problems abroad, he said, were world problems and could not be disposed of "by calling them European." He declared the United States would "view with disfavor any course which, instead of producing reparations, would threaten disaster," and said no one could foresee the "serious consequences" which might ensue if forcible means were adopted to obtain reparations from Germany.

Discusses Arms Conference

Aside from the economic question, Mr. Hughes devoted most of his address to a discussion of the results of the Washington arms conference. With respect to the recent public discussion of auxiliary craft programs, such as the Japanese and British cruiser projects, he said:

"There is nothing that can be called in any degree alarming." Mr. Hughes said, also with reference to total auxiliary craft tonnage untouched by the Washington treaty, "to arrange a modest dividend which would preclude a wasteful and unnecessary competition."

So far as American cruiser strength is concerned, he said, "the United States is not as well supplied as it should be, but the treaty does not interfere with adequate provision by the United States to supply this want, and it should be supplied."

Mr. Hughes declared that difficulties which prevented further naval limitations by the conference, so far as he was able to see, "scarcely stand." The failure, then, to make more sweeping limitations, he added, "is not attributable to us."

Summarizing his review of the naval pact and criticisms directed against it, the secretary said:

"My conclusion is that the naval treaty will stand the test of analysis and with adequate provision by the United States to supply this want, and that it will be a desirable safeguard."

DEMOCRATS TO HOLD PARTY MEET BEFORE LEGISLATURE OPENS

Members of 18th Assembly to Gather at Helena Sunday.

(Tribune's Helena Bureau)

Helena, Dec. 29.—Democratic members of the 18th legislative assembly will meet in a party conference Sunday afternoon, December 31, at 3 o'clock, for the consideration of matters of legislation. It is understood that this meeting will not be in the nature of a party caucus, but primarily for the purpose of discussing methods for the carrying into effect of the democratic economy pledge of the recent campaign.

In this connection considerable data relative to the various state departments and bureaus which have been collected by the democratic central committee will be placed before the meeting.

The meeting will be addressed by Judge J. E. Erickson, of Kalispell, chairman of the democratic state central committee, and by United States Senator-elect B. K. Wheeler. Judge Erickson arrived in Helena Friday afternoon and will remain here for several days.

State plans have been made for a democratic caucus and no time has been definitely fixed for the caucus of republican members, although it is the general belief that the republican caucus will be held Sunday evening.

Many of the legislators had arrived in Helena up to Friday evening and were busily engaged in the lobby of the Flacker hotel during the day in renewing acquaintances and listening to the pleas of a score or more of seekers after legislative jobs.

As far as can be ascertained no changes have been made in the Dixon house and senate states.

Both Calvin Crumbaker, the Dixon selection for speaker of the house, and A. O. Guldberg, the independent candidate for that office, have been mixing with the early arrivals in support of their candidacies, but there will be no way of measuring their respective strength until the caucus.

THIRSTY ONES BRAVE STORM TO SAVE RUM ON WRECKED VESSEL

Provincetown Residents Wait on Shore to Catch Part of Precious Cargo.

Provincetown, Mass., Dec. 29.—High and dry on the rocks off the Cape Cod coast guard station, the two masted British schooner Annie L. Spindler, out of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, was breaking up Friday night, under a fierce northwest gale, while scores of Cape Cod folk waited on the shore in the hope of salvaging part of her cargo. The schooner, it was reported, had on board 600 cases of whisky. Her papers showed that she was bound from St. Pierre, Miquelon, to Nassau.

The Spindler stranded on the rocks off Cape Cod early Friday during a high wind and heavy sea.

The coast guard crew shot a line across her and brought the skipper and crew of five ashore by a breeches buoy.

ARBUCKLE'S LAWYER FORMS MOVIE FIRM FOR FAT COMEDIAN

Falstaff of Screen to Have Own Company in Los Angeles, Report.

Los Angeles, Dec. 29.—Gavin McNab, San Francisco attorney, who defended Roscoe C. ("Fatty") Arbuckle in his three trials in the northern city for manslaughter in connection with the death of Miss Virginia Rennie, screen actress, has organized a company to produce a "comeback" picture, it was announced here Friday night by Joseph M. Schenck, producer, who previously stated he would re-employ Arbuckle.

According to Schenck, McNab has interested a group of San Francisco financiers in the plan, and they have organized a motion picture producing corporation to be capitalized at \$100,000.

It is understood the new company will seek a producing site in Los Angeles and that McNab will direct its affairs but that it will be known as Arbuckle's company and that the comedian will be its active head.

"I had a long talk today with Roscoe," Schenck was quoted. "He has recently returned from San Francisco, where he conferred with McNab and the San Francisco capitalists interested. Roscoe said McNab had organized a company which would produce his future pictures."

"Roscoe is already working on his first picture. The production will start immediately. I understand negotiations are in progress for studio space."

Days Happenings in Washington Briefly Reported

McNAB MERELY LAWYER

San Francisco, Dec. 29.—Gavin McNab, counsel for Roscoe C. Arbuckle, said Friday night at his home here that he was "doing the legal work incident to the organization of a motion picture company in which Arbuckle will appear, but I am not going into the motion picture business."

Dies in Lewistown Jail; Moonshine Held Death Cause

Lewistown, Dec. 29.—(By The Associated Press.)—"I'll bring you some breakfast," said a police officer to Will R. Anderson, a prisoner in a cell at the city jail, Friday morning. He did not know that he was talking to a dead man, but such was the case as he discovered a few minutes later when he took in the breakfast. Anderson was a barber and his death is attributed to drinking in moonshine. An inquest will be held Saturday.

FIRE DAMAGES HOSPITAL.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 29.—An unoccupied ward in the Emory hospital located at Emory university, near here, was slightly damaged by fire at midnight. The fire was extinguished after all available Atlanta fire apparatus had been rushed to scene. The patients confined in the hospital were not disturbed, it was said.

RATS, FLEAS HELD PARALYSIS AGENTS; 1923 BREAK FEARED

Infantile Disease Carried by Pests, Scientists Are Informed.

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 29.—The conviction that infantile paralysis is spread by rats and fleas, just as the bubonic plague is spread, was expressed by Professor Charles T. Brues, of Harvard university, in an address before the Medical Science section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science Friday.

He indicated that there may be an other serious outbreak in the United States soon, possibly during 1923.

"The animal reservoir to which the finger of suspicion points is the rat and insect intermediary, the flea, exactly the combination which we know to be responsible for the perpetuation of the bubonic plague," said Professor Brues.

The epidemic prevalence of paralysis he said, had been strikingly intermittent, "with a tendency to exacerbation every second or, more notably, every seventh year. If this frequency is repeated we may soon expect another serious outbreak in the United States, possibly during 1923, and if such should come it would be seen as probable that a world-wide epidemic wave of poliomyelitis is under way, similar to the present tropic epidemic of plague which began at about the same time."

Practically all epidemics of the disease, said Dr. Brues, occur during the summer.

Woman Is Quizzed on Phillips Escape

Los Angeles, Dec. 29.—Mrs. Peggy Buxton, taken into custody at Long Beach, near here, Thursday night, on the theory that she might shed light on the escape of Mrs. Clara Phillips, convicted murderess, who saved her way out of the Los Angeles county jail December 5, was brought to the sheriff's office here Friday and subjected to a lengthy questioning.

What information, if any, regarding Mrs. Phillips' hiding place was disclosed by Mrs. Buxton was not announced by officers said that she would remain in the county jail at least for the night.

New Idaho Governor Delays Appointments

Boise, Ida., Dec. 29.—No decision has been made by C. C. Moore, governor-elect, regarding the appointments which he has to make, it was announced by Idaho's next chief executive in an official statement issued Friday.

Applications for positions number several hundred, the governor-elect said, and because of the press of budget work and the preparation of his message, he has put all applications aside until the time arrives for their proper consideration. He did not say when this would be.