

SENATE RATIFIES NICARAGUAN PACT

By Vote of 55 to 18 Persistently Opposed Treaty Is Favorably Disposed Of.

PENDING OVER TWO YEARS U. S. Gets 99-Year Lease on Canal Route and Naval Base in Gulf of Fonseca.

WASHINGTON, February 18.—The Senate late today, by a vote of 55 to 18, ratified the long-pending and persistently opposed Nicaraguan treaty, whereby the United States would acquire a ninety-nine-year option on the Nicaraguan canal route and a naval base in the Gulf of Fonseca for \$3,000,000.

TREATY BEFORE SENATE FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS

Provisions of the treaty, which has been pending before the Senate for more than two years, are as follows: "Article I.—The government of Nicaragua grants in perpetuity to the government of the United States, forever free from all taxation or other public charge, the exclusive proprietary rights necessary and convenient for the construction, operation and maintenance of an interoceanic canal by way of the San Juan River and the great lake of Nicaragua, or by way of any route over Nicaraguan territory, and details of the terms upon which such canal shall be constructed, operated and maintained to be agreed to by the two governments whenever the government of the United States shall notify the government of Nicaragua of its desire or intention to construct such canal.

Sensational Charges in U. S. Senate Against Army Aviation Service

Offered Petrograd Post "Contemptibly Inefficient" and Its Head Prevents Facts From Reaching Superiors



DAVID R. FRANCIS.

WASHINGTON, February 18.—Sensational charges against the army aviation service, with a demand for immediate investigation by Congress, were made today before the Senate Military Committee by Senator Robinson, of Arkansas. He declared that the service was "contemptibly inefficient," and that its head, Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Reber, not only was making no effort to improve it, but deliberately was preventing the facts from reaching his superiors.

COTTON NEEDS SHIPS

WASHINGTON, February 18.—Secretary Lansing told Southern Representatives today that the country needed more ships for transportation of cotton, and that he thought the situation would soon be better in this respect.

ON LOOKOUT FOR CRONES

Extraordinary Precautions Taken to Protect Guests at Knights of Columbus Ball.

C. C. DANIELS QUILTS

Appointment of Secretary of Navy Declines Appointment as Counsel Under Man Appointed to Succeed Him.

SUFFRAGE MEETS ITS THIRD DEFEAT

Amendment Rejected in House of Delegates by Vote of 52 to 40.

ADVOCATES ARE ENCOURAGED

Will Come Again Next Session, and if They Fail, Will Come Again.

For the third time in the history of the Commonwealth, the suffrage issue of Virginia came to Capitol Hill yesterday to ask the lawmakers to approve an amendment to the Constitution conferring upon the women of the State the ancient right of the ballot.

WOMEN VOTERS

One of the members who had been pledged to vote for the bill was absent. Another who would have voted for the bill had been present was paired with a colleague who would have voted against it.

WOMEN VOTERS

Senator Robinson read literal excerpts from his photographs of letters, and quoted Captain Cowan as writing to Colonel Reber that if the service ever came under investigation by any one outside the signal corps, it would be impossible to explain the "rotten work" which the work has been doing.

WOMEN VOTERS

Mr. Norris, of Lancaster, confessed a bachelor because he finds the single state especially as first in the argument in favor of its ratification. He pleaded earnestly. "This was no new thing under the sun, Mistress Brest, of historic fame, applied 260 years ago to the Legislature of Maryland at Annapolis for the enfranchisement of her race.

WOMEN VOTERS

Mr. Norris deprecated the fear of the anti-suffrage forces, and said that the enfranchisement of women will complicate the question of negro suffrage. The fear was idle. The white women of the State of voting age, he said, outnumber by 2,000 both the men and women of the colored race.

WOMEN VOTERS

Senator Robinson introduced a letter, dated March 22, 1914, just prior to the occasion when a large number of Congressmen, including himself, visited the aviation section near San Diego. This purported to be from Colonel Reber to Captain Cowan, and read: "It is a good thing for the aviation section for you to put on your company uniform and show off when members of Congress turn up. You can give them rides, get them interested in your service, but positively decline to give your wives, sweethearts or other joy rides in the air, stating that you did this once and the War Department howled for your head, which, although not a fact, will sound terrifying to the applicants."

DRY FORCES SWEEP SENATE, 33 TO 6

Commissioner of Prohibition to Be Elected by General Assembly.

STRODE SUBSTITUTE LOST

Acrimonious Debate Over Alleged Political Activity of Anti-Saloon League.

Rejection of the Strode substitute, which placed upon the Governor the responsibility of the measure, ended the prohibition law of the State as enacted by the Senate yesterday, by a vote of 33 to 6, adopted in its entirety section 32 of the Mapp bill, creating a commissioner of prohibition, whose sole duty it shall be to prosecute violations of the prohibition act.

STRODE SUBSTITUTE LOST

The official vote on the adoption of the Strode substitute stood as follows: Ayes—Addison, Cannon, Downing, Gray, Strode, Wendenburg—6. Noes—Allen, Andrews, Barham, Bowers, Boyd, Conrad, Corbett, Duff, Drewry, Early, Garrett, Gayle, Goodrich, Goodrich, Gunn, Henning, Holt, Jeffrey, Jordan, Lacy, Mapp, Mathews, Peltier, Rinehart, Risson, Robertson, Ross, Saunders, Thompson, Trimble, Walker, Webb, West—32.

STRODE SUBSTITUTE LOST

Restoration of charges that the Anti-Saloon League played a prominent part in naming the committees of the Senate brought forth a strenuous denial from Senator West, a member of the steering committee, that his action had been in any way influenced by an illegal organization.

STRODE SUBSTITUTE LOST

In the midst of the Senate's heated outbreak, Senator Goodrich rose from his seat and asked if it was not a fact that a list of names selected by the Anti-Saloon League had been submitted to prospective members of the steering committee, and they were appointed to their positions under an agreement to appoint the committee from the list submitted.

STRODE SUBSTITUTE LOST

"In an evil hour," he said, "some one has sown tares in our wheat. The Anti-Saloon League, who are neither dead nor sleeping, has taken hold of the situation, and effected a general election of the Anti-Saloon League leaders of the State. If the substitute offered by the Senator from Annapolis is adopted and prohibition falls in Virginia, I will always believe that the future will be due to the lack of a commissioner to see that the law is properly enforced.

STRODE SUBSTITUTE LOST

Mr. Hensley on "side line" talking to Geissler. Representative Tom Hensley, Democrat, went to the "side line" and was engaged in conversation with Geissler, when Hensley walked away. Geissler stepped up to Geissler and demanded: "What right have you in talking to a Representative on the floor of the House?"

Most of Turkish Garrison Escapes

While full details of the capture of Erzerum, Turkish Armenia, are still lacking, sensational news from Petrograd are to the effect that most of the Turkish garrison made their escape. Thousands of Armenians are declared to have been massacred by Kurds before the evacuation.

Most of Turkish Garrison Escapes

There has been considerable artillery activity around the positions taken by the Germans recently from the British in the vicinity of Ypres and several attempts by the British to recapture their lost ground by infantry attacks. Berlin says the attacks were repulsed, with heavy casualties.

Most of Turkish Garrison Escapes

The Austrians and Italians at various points are still engaged in artillery duels and occasional infantry maneuvers, but no notable alterations have occurred on either side. Vienna reports less activity than usual on the part of the Italian guns.

Most of Turkish Garrison Escapes

Swad Pasha has been deprived of his rank and removed from the Turkish army list for having assumed the leadership of the provisional government of Albania and the ranks of the entente allies.

Most of Turkish Garrison Escapes

Partisan Feeling in Oklahoma House Over New Election Law Culminates in Near Riot.

ONE RENDERED UNCONSCIOUS

Democratic Members Advance Toward Republicans, and After Volleys of Paper Weights, Books and Other Missiles Melee Ends.

ONE RENDERED UNCONSCIOUS

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA., February 18.—Turbulent scenes occurred in the Oklahoma House of Representatives today while the members were voting on a section of an election law designed to take the place of the famous "grandfather law" which recently was declared unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court because in effect it disfranchised the negro population of the State.

MERCHANT SHIPS HAVE A RIGHT TO ARM FOR DEFENSE

American Diplomatic and Consular Officials Are Notified.

FIRST FORMAL NOTICE OF POSITION OF U. S.

Does Not Accept Latest Teutonic Order as Coming Within International Law.

BERLIN ASKED FOR ASSURANCES

WASHINGTON, February 18.—All American diplomatic and consular officials abroad have been notified by the State Department that the position of the United States is that merchant ships have a right to carry defensive armament. This is the first formal announcement that the United States does not accept as legal the announced intention of Germany and Austria to sink armed merchant ships without warning after February 29 as coming within international law.

BERLIN ASKED FOR ASSURANCES

It is expected here that Germany's response to the latest request of the United States for assurances that submarine warfare will be conducted in accordance with established principles of international law will be a flat statement that assurances previously given in the Lusitania and Arabic cases had to do only with unarmed vessels, and that the German government must feel certain that its submarines which warn a merchant ship will not be attacked. Furthermore, the Berlin Foreign Office probably will ask the United States for its definition of defensive armament.

BERLIN ASKED FOR ASSURANCES

Lengthy Negotiations With Central Powers Expected to Result From New Developments.

CERTAIN TO RESULT

Lengthy negotiations, it is considered certain, will begin with the central powers on this question when their reply is received to the message outlining the views of the United States which Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, has sent the government before the last of next week.

CERTAIN TO RESULT

Eleven days remain before German and Austrian submarine commanders begin to put into effect their new instructions, unless the date for the opening of the new campaign is postponed. While the United States is said not to have asked for a postponement, the German ambassador is believed to have called the attention of his government to the fact that the complete appendix forming the basis of the German declaration had not yet had time to reach the State Department, and for this reason a postponement would not be surprising.

CERTAIN TO RESULT

Officials also are awaiting copies of the confidential instructions to attack submarines the German government attaches have been given to the commanders of British merchant ships, which, because of their length, have been forwarded by mail.

INK BOTTLES AS WEAPONS ARE USED BY LEGISLATORS

Partisan Feeling in Oklahoma House Over New Election Law Culminates in Near Riot.

ONE RENDERED UNCONSCIOUS

Democratic Members Advance Toward Republicans, and After Volleys of Paper Weights, Books and Other Missiles Melee Ends.

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Representative Paul Nesbitt, Democrat of Pittsburg County, had voted in favor of the proposed law, and as he announced his vote, Representative Sims, Republican, taunted Nesbitt with being "unfair" to Republicans.

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NO BRANDEIS HEARING

Senate Subcommittee Abandons Session Set for Friday and Calls One for Next Thursday.

ROOSEVELT AT ST. THOMAS

Visits Places of Interest, but Declines to Be Interviewed on Political Affairs.

NEW SERVICE. The Chesapeake and Ohio has opened a restaurant on a steamer Virginia operating between Newport News, Norfolk and Portsmouth. Meals à la carte.

(Continued on Second Page.)