

Confiscation Bad Business. Who Votes for Johnson? The World Like a Watch. How Rich is the U. S. A.?

By ARTHUR BRISBANE. (Copyright, 1914.)

Those powerful financially would be foolish if they put through confiscation of property by legislation. They might in some future day see their own property confiscated.

Johnson carried Michigan overwhelmingly. The New York Times said that Red Radicals, the I. W. W. and similar wickedness had cast the votes.

California, especially, will be interested in the suggestion that her fighting product, Johnson, gets only the votes of "underlings."

The Allies plan to build a bridge across the Bosphorus. When it is done, you will travel from Calais to the Cape of Good Hope without changing cars.

Nobody is independent. Look into this world as you look into your watch. Every little wheel depends on every other wheel.

From the old home of the Hairy Ainos bad financial news crosses the Pacific Ocean, and Wall Street organizes its little panic.

Germany and Russia, gigantic wheels in the world machine, are blocked, boycotted, while Austria, another wheel, is broken.

Lloyd George says the peace League is half joke, half failure, only put through to please and oblige President Wilson anyhow.

Another prominent gentleman says: "France and England are the League of Nations." He is mistaken.

Somebody is worried because veterans' claims in years to come will cost this nation twenty-five thousand million dollars.

Real estate in New York City is assessed very conservatively at nine thousand million dollars.

Many have no idea how rich this country really is.

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WEATHER: Fair and cooler tonight and tomorrow. Temperature at 3 P. M., 65 degrees.

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WASHINGTON, FRIDAY EVENING, APRIL 23, 1920.

[Closing Wall Street Prices]

TWO CENTS in Washington and suburbs. Elsewhere THREE CENTS

CORVETTES WARSHIPS SENT TO MEXICO

W. R. & E. SEEKS RAISE IN MD.

Company Petitions for Right to Increase Fares to Conform With Washington.

OPPOSITION IS CERTAIN

Interstate Commerce Commission and Maryland Officials Urged to Hasten Action.

Higher fares on lines of the Washington Railway & Electric Company running in the State of Maryland are asked in petitions filed by the company with the Interstate Commerce Commission and Public Service Commission of Maryland.

The increases asked follow: Increase in cash fare in each zone from seven to eight cents, with four tickets or tokens for thirty cents.

Effective in May, increase of 65 cents on all commutation books containing twenty-six round trips.

The petitioners asked that the increases become effective May 1, but the commission turned down the request.

In petitioning the two commissions, S. R. Bowen, vice president of the company, states that the company is desirous of a uniform fare on all its lines, both in the District and Maryland.

Thousands of suburbanites will be affected by any change in rates. The W. R. & E. carried over 1,000,000 passengers in the suburban passenger, numbering more than 12,000.

"Great confusion and difficulty will arise to the serious detriment of the petitioners and annoyance to the public, unless permission is granted to put in force the rates mentioned," say the two petitioners.

Vice President Bowen said this morning that he did not believe a hearing would be held on the petitions filed. He stated public hearings were not required by law and that the commissions might allow the increase after considering the case carefully themselves.

Here are the changes in the cost of commutation books asked: To Cabin John Bridge, present, \$4.71; new rate, \$5.36.

To Switch No. 4, Rockville line, present, \$5.68; new, \$6.33.

To Montrose, present, \$6.59; new, \$7.54.

To Rockville, present, \$8.11; new, \$8.76.

To Forest Glen, present, \$4.71; new, \$5.36.

To Beltsville, present, \$7.25; new, \$7.90.

MRS. PEARL ODELL, nineteen-year-old bride, and her youthful husband, James Louis Odell, who, according to the police of Rochester, N. Y., confessed to the "vengeance murder" of Edward J. Knep. Odell is on trial today and his wife comes to trial later.



TELLS HOW HE AND WIFE KILLED LOVER

Verdict is Expected Today in Trial of James Odell—Prisoner Describes Slaying.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., April 23.—Judge Robert F. Thompson today will charge the jury which has been sitting at the trial of James L. Odell, twenty-three, charged with the murder of Edward J. Knep, his girl wife's former lover, on January 7, last.

A verdict is expected late today. In an extraordinary plea for Odell's life, Elmer Shaffer, chief attorney for the accused man, conceded that his client was guilty of participation in the act that ended in murder.

In a straightforward talk to the jury District Attorney William F. Love asked for the conviction of Odell. The district attorney went into considerable detail, reciting some of the facts that the prosecution had developed in this most brutal killing.

On the witness stand Odell put the responsibility for the actual killing of Knep on his wife, Pearl, who, when the coup de grace was administered to Knep out there on lonely

(Continued on Page 2, Column 6.)

ADMIRAL BRITAIN KILLS SELF ON SHIP

Rear Admiral C. R. Brittain, chief of staff to the commander of the Atlantic Fleet, shot himself and died instantly, yesterday afternoon, according to a cablegram received today by Secretary of the Navy Daniels from Admiral Wilson, at Guantanamo Bay. No details were given. The body is being sent to the United States on board the Solace.

Rear Admiral Brittain was born in Pineville, Ky. He was graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy in 1888. He was awarded the Sampson medal for engagement at Santiago. His home was in Richmond, Va.

BRANDS HUSBAND AS GIRL'S SLAYER

Mrs. Tabor Fries for Death of Daughter, Shifts Guilt in Jail Statements.

PAW PAW, Mich., April 23.—Joseph Virgo, the much married undertaker husband of Maude Tabor Virgo, the victim in Michigan's "hope chest" death mystery, was branded as the real slayer of the young woman in signed statements submitted today to the jury that is trying Mrs. Sarah Tabor for manslaughter in connection with her daughter's death.

The statements were made by Mrs. Tabor during her incarceration in a Kalamazoo jail, after she was brought there following discovery of her daughter's body in the cellar of the Tabor home at Lawton, Mich., where it has lain nearly four years.

U. S. JURY INDICTS MEAT PACKERS AS PROFITEERS

NEW YORK, April 23.—Heads of the Brooklyn branches of Armour & Co., Swift & Co., and Wilson & Co., meat packers, were indicted today by the Federal grand jury in Brooklyn on charges of profiteering in the sale of meat.

The indictment against the head of the Armour & Co. branch contained three counts, the one against the head of Swift & Co.'s plant four counts, and one was in the indictment against the head of Wilson & Co.'s branch.

CAILLAUX MAY BE FREED FROM PRISON IN MONTH

PARIS, April 23.—It was unofficially reported this afternoon that the French Senate, sitting as a high court of justice, had reached a decision to impose a three-year sentence of imprisonment upon former Premier Joseph Caillaux, who was found guilty of having conspired with the enemy.

'OUTLAW' STRIKERS PLAN OWN ALLIANCE

New Organization Will Work Independently of Rail Brotherhoods.

An alliance of all the "outlaw" railroad unions will be effected today to form a working agreement to join forces and take united action, according to R. J. Mitchell, of the United Engineers' Association of Chicago.

Representatives of the New York and New Jersey strikers announced today that they would join the alliance and hereafter work independently of the brotherhoods.

The new alliance, it was stated, will have at the beginning a membership of 75,000 railroad workers, representing labor crafts. As soon as the railroad labor board hands down a decision on the wage demands before it, a national convention of the delegates in the United States and Canada will be called.

"It is not to be a one big union," said J. P. Foley, of the Cleveland Yardmen's Association. "We're not for that red stuff. We're law-abiding citizens and good Americans who are tired of supporting high-paid officials who act as guards and keep the members of the organizations under tyrannical rule. We are not sowing seeds of Bolshevism being sowed those who are deluging this wage question are responsible."

Delegations from Pittsburgh, Chicago, and St. Louis are expected for a conference to be held this afternoon. "The Government is in a hopeless muddle about the problem of reducing the cost of living," Warren Stone, chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, declared before the Railroad Labor Board today.

"I am frank to say that if this board should grant the increases in wages asked it will be only temporary relief," Stone said. "Some other remedy besides raising wages is needed to settle the present economic conditions. This is the most critical time in our history; and as an American, who loves his country, I say to you that we are headed for a smash if we keep on going in a spiral of increased cost of living and increased wages."

Stane said he did not believe that if President Wilson had "kept the faith" the country would have gotten into "a muddle." He said wages should not be fixed on the cost of living, but should be based on American standards of living.

"Our country," he said, "cannot prosper so long as men receive just enough in their pay envelopes to keep body and soul together. Instead of talking a minimum wage standard, we should talk about a minimum living standard."

AMUNDSEN IS STILL ICEBOUND IN SIBERIA

Roald Amundsen, Arctic explorer, who is attempting an expedition to the North Pole, is still icebound along the Colima river in Siberia, according to wireless advices to the Navy Department.

CLAIM U. S. PAID FOR IDLE SHIPS

Baltimore Transportation Company Springs Sensation at Hearing Before I. C. C.

BIG COMPENSATION CITED

Charge Rival Line's Vessels Were Taken Over and Returned Unused.

Evidence tending to show the payment by the United States Shipping Board of large sums of money to the Clyde and Mallory steamship companies during the war for the charter of vessels which never performed a day's work in the service of the Government has been submitted at a hearing before a board of referees of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Claims Are Contrasted. The testimony was offered in connection with the proceedings which have been brought by the Merchants' and Miners' Transportation Company of Baltimore for the recovery of approximately \$1,200,000 compensation claimed from the United States Railroad Administration.

The evidence was in the form of exhibits offered by Otis B. Kent, general counsel of the Merchants' and Miners' Company, for the purpose of contrasting the claim of the Baltimore Shipping Company with the sums paid the rival coastwise lines by the Shipping Board, and were prepared and certified to from the records of the Shipping Board.

Mr. Kent was careful to explain that he intended no criticism of the board's action, but the submission of the exhibits and their reading into the record created a sensation in the hearing room. Counsel for the Director General of Railway Administration objected strenuously to their introduction on technical grounds, and after hearing the exhibits read by Mr. Kent the referee sustained the objection, with the understanding, however, that the evidence and data might be submitted to the Court of Claims in the event that the Merchants' and Miners' case, as it is likely to do, goes to that tribunal.

Vessels Too Small. It was shown by the exhibits that the Clyde and Mallory Lines, along with other coastwise shipping, were requisitioned by the Shipping Board October 15, 1917. Ten of the vessels of the Clyde Line and eight of the Mallory Line, however, being under 3,000 tons each, were found unavailable for overseas war service.

The Shipping Board records showed that these vessels were left in the service of their owners, though nominally under requisition by the Government. On December 28, 1917, the Shipping Board adopted a resolution by which vessels of less than 3,000 tons were to be returned to their owners and relinquished from requisition.

In spite of this resolution, which appears here to have been rescinded, the officials of the Shipping Board never actually relinquished the nominal requisition until more than three months later, when they were transferred to the railroad administration. In that period, from October 15, 1917, to April 12, 1918, the Shipping Board paid the Clyde Line for its ten vessels in charter rentals \$567,000 and the Mallory Line for its eight vessels \$553,234.32, or a total to the two companies for these eighteen vessels of \$1,120,234.32. In addition, and for the same period, these companies have submitted unpaid claims for rentals on these same vessels of \$208,469.61. In other words, the total amount paid and claimed under this nominal requisition for the six months' period aggregates \$2,328,703.93.

M. and M.'s Claim Smaller. Contrasted with this, the claim of the Merchants and Miners' Company against the railroad administration (Continued on Page 2, Column 3.)

LOUIS PHELAN, son of Congressman Michael F. Phelan of Massachusetts, who is missing with his chum, Reynolds Condon.



LAWMAKER'S SON IS MISSING

Louis Phelan and His "Buddy," Reynolds Condon, Disappear During Holidays.

The lure of the West, the oil fields, and Canada have taken Louis Phelan, the fifteen-year-old son of Congressman Michael Francis Phelan of Massachusetts, and his "buddy," Reynolds Condon, a fellow-student at Western High School, from their homes in Washington. Ever since the Easter holidays their whereabouts have been unknown to their heart-broken parents.

For weeks the youths have been sought in vain, and today their mothers and fathers are hoping against hope that an early train will bring them back.

Yesterday afternoon the boy students at Western High School had an assembly, at which an appeal to them to aid in finding the runaways was made.

Parents Get Letters. It is known that a friend of the boys in Washington has been forwarding letters from them to their parents, but neither he nor they can be located.

Personal advertisements in the local newspapers have proved to no avail, though Louis is understood to have left word that he would answer any queries that might reach him through the news columns, sandwiched between trade advertisements in one of the morning papers today, the following appeal for the immediate return of Louis Phelan, with a promise of forgiveness, appeared:

Communicate at once with home; positively will not take Panama trip without you; wire immediately address and how much money you need; mother heartbroken and ill and wants you. I shall not be angry. Pa.

Discussed Western Trip. The sudden and mysterious disappearance of the school boys was kept a secret until the assembly at Western High School. For fear of unnecessary trouble and worry the frantic parents neglected to notify the police of their sons' leaving the city. They were not posted as missing in the police departments of other cities, and consequently they were safe from fear of apprehension.

Though letters have reached their homes which were supposed to have been written in Shreveport, La., and in Mount, Miss., before they left the city they "going out West," and about "heading for the oil fields." Stories of sudden fortune may have lured them to travel.

Canada is also known to have been one of the "dream" destinations. Before he left his home at 1901 Blittmore street northwest, fourteen-year-old Reynolds Condon, discussed his plans freely with boy friends and in public. He avowed his intention of "working his way through Canada, and never to come back."

Appeal in Newspapers. The mothers of both of the boys are prostrated, heartbroken and frantic for the immediate return of their boys, according to the personal advertisements which have been inserted almost daily. "One which was published on April 15 read:

"I am—All good, mother prostrated, results may be as known unless you return at once, can see things clearly now, will gladly welcome you without question. Your companion must return with you. Telegraph if you need money. Pa. Two days later the following notice was inserted in the Washington papers:

SEEK U. S. FLAG BELOW BORDER

Americans Alarmed by Situation Developing at Three Coast Towns.

CENSOR CLAMPS DOWN LID

State Department Refuses Comment on Request for Fighting Craft.

The State Department this afternoon requested the Navy Department to send two light-draft gunboats to Mazatlan and Topolobampo, on the west coast of Mexico.

American representatives at the Mexican ports of Topolobampo, Mazatlan, and Frontera have asked that American warships be sent to those ports, the State Department announced today.

The State Department refused to make any statement as to the incidents which have led to the request for warships.

The matter of sending warships is now under consideration, the State Department announced.

Fear Serious Outbreak. "It is a very reassuring thing to see the American flag flying," was the comment made by one high official in connection with the request for warships.

Dispatches received at the State Department indicate that there is a very unsettled condition in Mexico which may lead to a serious outbreak, and it is believed that it is to guard the safety of Americans in such an event that the warships have been asked for.

There are indications at the State Department that a strict censorship has been set up in Mexico. No Mexican newspapers yesterday printed any articles bearing on the revolution, despite the fact that reports here indicate that the revolution is creating a serious condition of affairs.

Nearest Ships at Cuba. The warships Tacoma and Niagara, from which Marines were recently landed at Guatemala, are the nearest to Frontera, although the Atlantic fleet is now at Guantanamo Bay. Frontera, in the state of Tabasco, is in the mahogany districts of Mexico, and it is understood that the American colony there is not large.

MEXICO CITY, April 23.—Rebels under Gen. Abulfo Gomez, who were trying to capture the great oil port of Tuxpan, have been decisively defeated and dispersed by federal troops commanded by Gen. Herminio Alvarez, Gen. Juan Espinosa, and Gen. A. Cordoba. It was announced today by Gen. Juan Barragan, chief of staff to President Carranza.

The attack was begun by the rebels. According to the official announcement, the attackers were not only beaten off but were put to flight, taking refuge in nearby mountains.

General Barragan announced also that Col. Romulo Figueroa, governor of the state of Guerrero, has joined the revolutionary army in Sonora. Mexico City continues quiet.

TODAY

do you think the United States is worth.

That Wall Street is frightened means nothing.

Germany asks permission to keep 200,000 men under arms. The United States decides to keep a standing army of nearly 300,000. We are not expecting attack from the outside. The big army, if truth were told, is wanted here to "take care" of radicals, labor troubles, etc.

If we need nearly 300,000 men here to keep ourselves peaceful after winning a war, Germany seems to be asking little when she wants 200,000 to keep down her radicals and take care of Russia and other outside possibilities.