

SAYS MEXICAN LAND GRANT NOT ALLOWED

General Aguirre Declares That While Foreigners Have Enterprises No Concession Is Permitted.

INTERVIEW IS CORRECTED

Points Out Inaccuracies in Statement Attributed to Him on Japanese Fishing in California.

By The Associated Press. MEMPHIS, Tenn., Wednesday, April 3.—Lower California these are foreign enterprises, among which are one or two Japanese, to whom have been concessions for the exploitation of certain natural resources in various places, but none of them has been permitted, nor will be permitted, to acquire tracts of land because the constitution prohibits this definitely, was the statement made today by Gen. Amado Aguirre, undersecretary of agriculture and development.

Naturally there has been a request for those companies holding concessions which have always complied with the stipulations of their contracts, but some companies, among them the Mexico Land company, have had their contracts nullified for not having complied with their provisions. These concessions will be duly and legally liquidated. Those interests which have large holdings will be obliged to divide them and nobody will be given more than 250 acres.

Shows No Concessions. General Aguirre declared the government had not and would not allow foreign interests to obtain lands in Lower California, and pointed out that Article XXVII of the constitution prohibits foreigners from holding lands within 50 miles of a frontier and 50 miles of a seacoast. He said that under these provisions because of the geographical situation of Lower California it would be virtually impossible for foreign interests to acquire any considerable tract, even in the interior, because of the narrowness of the peninsula.

Regarding concessions held by foreigners, the undersecretary stated that among those holding fishing rights were both Japanese and Norwegians, but he made it plain that no foreign interests hold rights to land along the coast.

Interview Inaccurate. Discussing an interview with him by a representative of the newspaper, Executive of this city on March 29, which was embodied in an Associated Press dispatch of that date, General Aguirre declared it was inaccurate in some respects.

In taking up this interview at length it was pointed out that it was stated "The concessions were fully authorized by the provisions of the constitution," which, he said, "absolutely forbids the first sentence stating Japanese corporations have been granted concessions to exploit agricultural lands in Lower California of any meaning that would cause alarm since the geographical configuration of Lower California and constitutional provisions regarding concessions barred to foreigners absolutely prohibited large holdings.

The undersecretary declared, however, that the dispatch was incorrect in that the only concessions granted were five-year permits to conduct

fishing operations which permits allow no land or port holdings. General Aguirre stated that when asked regarding the reported concessions by George T. Summerlin, an interim charge at the American embassy here, he informed the American diplomat of the facts substantially given in his statement quoted above.

RESPIRE FOR DEBS ASKED OF WILSON BY SOCIALISTS

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Application for a respite preliminary to a petition for pardon of Eugene V. Debs, the socialist leader sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment for violation of the espionage act, has been received at the white house and will be referred to Attorney General Palmer. The request is signed by Frank P. Walsh, Charles Edward Russell and Alan Benson. It has not been brought to the attention of President Wilson, it was learned today.

Should a respite be granted it would stay the execution of Debs' 10-year prison sentence until the expiration of a stipulated time during which consideration would be given to a pardon. If it was not granted Debs would be remanded to prison immediately upon certification by the supreme court of its findings upholding his conviction, which probably would be about May 1.

The court, after upholding the conviction of Debs, refused an application for a rehearing. During the pendency of the case before the higher court, Debs has been at liberty under bond.

The application for clemency to President Wilson is his last appeal.

Absentee Voting in Arkansas. LITTLE ROCK, Ark., April 3.—Gov. Charles H. Brough has signed Representative Carson's bill extending the privilege of voting in primary and general elections to soldiers, sailors, traveling salesmen, students at college and railroad men who are qualified voters, but are absent from the state on election day. The law is similar to that of a number of states which have already adopted the principle of absentee voting.

Rules That War Is Over. LOUISVILLE, Ky., April 3.—In line with an informal statement from the bench on March 24, Federal Judge Walter Evans, in an opinion today handed down a decision finding that the war in Europe legally is at an end and that a plea for a new trial on conviction of violation wartime military regulations after the armistice was signed, has standing in court.

Hank Severid Joins Browns. Hank Severid, who recently came back from France, has joined the Browns and Manager Jimmy Burke is counting on him to do the bulk of the team's basket work during the coming season.

Sleeping Sickness Develops. AUSTIN, Texas, April 3.—Six additional cases of sleeping sickness in Texas have been reported to the state health department, making seven cases thus far reported.

While Running French Railroads Hopkins Saw a Few Air Raids--and Many, Many Pretty Girls

Major C. F. Hopkins, who returned to Tulsa from six months' overseas service Monday morning, has been kept busy all week shaking hands with old friends and adjusting himself to new conditions. In conversation with some of his friends Wednesday the major turned himself loose and told of many interesting incidents of his trip and sojourn in France. His long service with the Frisco railroad and his handling of transportation in the country as superintendent at Mexico made him a valuable man for the government and while in France he was in charge of three railroad divisions, looking after the transportation of troops and supplies.

Contrary to the general belief Major Hopkins states that the railroads in France are good most of the American troops were handled over French railroads that were there before the American troops went there. The lines are double tracked throughout, standard gauge and the roadbed first-class. Of course, a lot of old locomotives were brought into use by the emergency of war, but ordinarily the French locomotives were as good as our own and as powerful. They were somewhat different in construction; they had no pilots and no headlights, but these were not necessary even at night, as the lines were double tracked and grade crossings were very few, and all of these had gates. He said that American troops were carried in box cars, which were very small, and that all the doughboys will remember the funny inscription painted on the sides: "Capacity 3 horses, 40 men."

Americans Splintered Allies. Major Hopkins states that when the Americans began arriving in France last spring, right after the great drive of the Germans, the French and the British soldiers were whipped, and not only that but they knew they were whipped and the Germans knew it, too, with the result that the morale of the allies was very low, while that of the Germans was very high. An immediate change took place, however, after the great showing made by the Americans at Cantigny and Chateau Thierry. News of the American exploits spread like wildfire on both sides of the line; the French and British resistance stiffened, with a corresponding loss of morale and effectiveness among the Germans.

It was one day last August that Major Hopkins reached Havre and on that day German Zeppelins dropped many bombs on the city, their objective being the great acid plants located there. He arrived in Paris in time to witness a German raid over the metropolis. He was also present in Paris in December when President Wilson arrived and says that the reception tendered by the French government and the people was a marvelous demonstration. Speaking of the French people Major Hopkins had nothing but praise for them, the men were wonderful and the women still more so. The air fighters of France are the greatest in the world, and their dar-

GENERAL WOOD GETS MEDAL FOR SERVICE

Is Included in List of Officers Awarded Honors for Varied Services During the War.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—A list of officers who have been awarded the distinguished service medal for exceptionally meritorious service during the war, issued by the war department today, includes the names of Major General Leonard Wood, Hugh L. Scott and John P. Morrison.

At the same time the department announced award of the medal to Gen. K. Oishi of the Japanese army, "for especially meritorious and distinguished service as senior allied commander in Siberia."

Among other officers given the medals are: Brig. Gen. Robert M. Danford, Oliver Edwards, Frank K. Ferguson, Charles McK. Williams, Archibald H. Sutherland, E. Evelyn Winstow, Lytle Brown, John J. Bradley, Maj. Gen. Willard A. Holbrook, Gay Carlisle, Col. James G. Breeze, Bradley Howey, Robert E. Wylie, J. R. Andrews, Lieut. Col. J. M. Auld, British army, and Col. E. D. Giles, British army.

The citation of Major General Holbrook refers to his "conspicuous service as commanding general of the southern department, whose firmness and tact in handling a threatening situation on the Mexican border materially improved the conditions between the United States and Mexico."

General Wood's decoration was based on his service in the department division and camp commander during the war. The citation says: "He has displayed qualities of leadership and professional attainments of a high order in the administration and training of his various commands, and had furthered in

WORLD-WIDE WIRELESS PHONE SYSTEM PLANNED

NEW YORK, April 3.—Plans for a world-wide wireless telephone system are being considered by the General Electric company, according to a statement made by Ernest P. W. Alexanderson, consulting engineer of the company in an address here yesterday before the American Institute of radio engineers. Mr. Alexanderson declared that two devices invented by him—the bridge receiver and the barrage receiver—would make possible introduction of such a system, so that business deals could be transacted in a few minutes by persons thousands of miles apart.

He explained that the system contemplated is a virtually a replica of the exchange system of ordinary telephone. Central offices, he said, would be established in all the principal cities.

CONFEDERATE DAUGHTERS CONTINUE OLD OFFICERS

LOUISVILLE, Ky., April 3.—Miss Mary Eppenhelm of Charleston, S. C., was re-elected president general of the United Daughters of the Confederacy at its annual convention here today. All other officers also were re-elected with the exception of Mrs. Frank A. Walker of Norfolk, Va., custodian of flags and pennants whose place was filled by Simon Hollins, bookkeeper of Louisville. The session of a convention city for next year was deferred until later in the week.

ARTILLERY ORGANIZATIONS TO BE RETAINED BY ARMY

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The American army will retain permanently some of the artillery organizations which are an outgrowth of the war. Among those according to the reorganization plans which have been approved, are 155 rifles, the weapons relied upon largely in the closing days of the war for barrage work, eight inch and 9.2 in. field howitzers, heavy railway guns, including 12 inch, 14 inch and 16 inch mortars, howitzers and rifles, trench mortar units and antiaircraft batteries including motorized machine gun units to protect troops on the march from attack from the air.

In addition to the 61 regiments of field artillery provided for in the divisional organization there are to be six regiments of army artillery to go with the field army organization to be created.

McIntire Decorated

LONDON, April 3.—Captain W. E. McIntire of the American expeditionary forces was decorated with the military cross by King George at Buckingham palace today. The captain is a member of the medical corps.

EMBARGO ON MOVEMENT OF GRAIN IS REMOVED

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Removal of the embargo and permit system, which has controlled the movement of grain to primary markets since last fall, was announced today by the railroad administration. Officials said the action was due to the improved condition of storage facilities which now permits the receipt of grain without restriction.

The permit system for movement of export grain to seaboard points will be in effect. Removal of the embargo on the movement to primary points affects points only in the middle west.

Sunshine Krispy Crackers hit the hungry spot!

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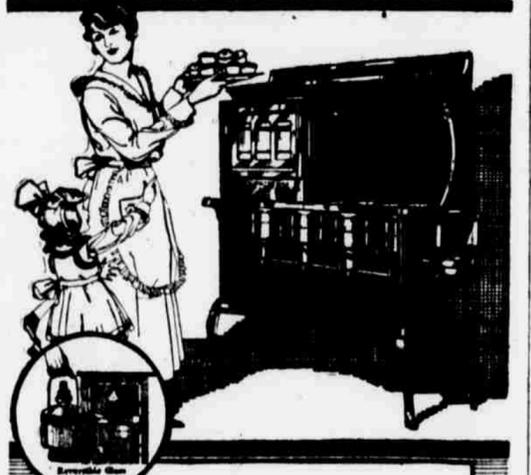
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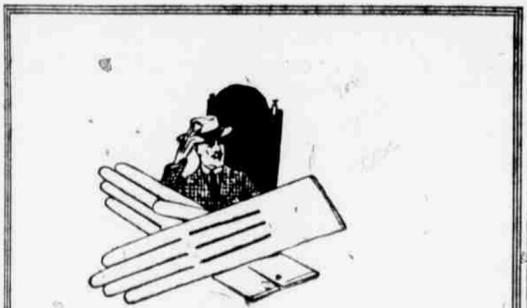


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